

Sudbury Commission on Disability

Minutes of meeting, Tuesday, January 6, 2009; 7:00 PM, Sudbury Senior Center

Present: Chair David Mortimer, Lotte Diomedede, Ben Halsband, Kris Kiesel, Peter Sargent, Susan Stocker, and Carol Stoner

Absent: Anita Simon

Next meeting	Tuesday, January 27, 2009, 7:00 PM, Sudbury Senior Center, 40 Fairbank Road
---------------------	---

Issue	Discussion	Decisions/Questions	Next Steps
Minutes	Minutes of the Tuesday, November 18, 2008 meeting were approved as amended.		

Old Business

Parking	Dave received an e-mail from Wayne Walker which said, "I am informed by the police chief that a total of 20 handicapped space parking violations were issued in 6 traffic enforcement shifts over the course of late November to December. Five of these were voided at the police station almost immediately as the offenders brought valid handicap placards to the station. Fourteen others have been appealed to me as parking clerk . . . Two of these appellants produced valid handicap placards and were voided, so I will be holding twelve hearings for the remaining offenders. That leaves only one ticket unaccounted for and to date it has not been paid."	The Commission would like some additional details. For example, when were the tickets written (which days/times had the most violations?); which officer wrote the most tickets? How did this special detail affect the ordinary enforcement of handicap parking rules? Are the hearings mentioned by Mr. Walker public hearings? Are copies of the tickets available to look at (are they public documents)? Was any attempt made by the officers to see if the person driving the car at the time of the violation was actually the person to whom the (nondisplayed) placard was issued? Does Sudbury have a policy that people with valid but undisplayed placards get one warning and then must pay a fine for subsequent offences?	Dave will write a letter to Wayne Walker asking these questions.
---------	---	--	--

Issue	Discussion	Decisions/Questions	Next Steps
Sudbury ADA Self-Assessment and Transition Plan	<p>Dave received an e-mail from Wayne Walker which said, "Concerning the proposed ADA plan Town Meeting article, I went to the CIPC meeting to advocate for funds for this article and they spent at least an hour asking questions about it and having general conversation about capital project priorities. I was advised by the Finance Director that the committee voted at a later meeting not to support this requested article and to eliminate this and several other requests from their capital recommendations. Maureen [Valente] did support the article, but in view of the CIPC's failure to recommend this funding and the reduction in the amount of funds available for capital projects overall for next year I doubt that we will pursue the article further at this time.</p>	<p>The Town has been out of compliance with the ADA law since it was passed, or for more than 15 years. While the Town has taken several steps to make itself more accessible, such as renovations to the Flynn Building, and making the downstairs of the Town Hall accessible, as well as building new (accessible) schools, there have been many other new projects that do not seem to have considers ADA or AAB requirements, including newly constructed walkways and a tot lot or playground at Haskell Field. An ADA plan is needed as a blueprint for further action and also to help protect the town against potential legal action. The Commission VOTED six to one to have Kris write a letter to Maureen Valente thanking her for her support but urging that hiring a consultant to develop an ADA plan needs to be a top priority in the future. The ADA plan will also form a blueprint for Commission activity and advocacy in the future.</p>	<p>Kris will write a letter to Maureen Valente, saying that the consensus of the Commission is that we appreciate her support for the ADA plan, and recognize that the Town is in financial distress. However, the town is out of compliance with the law and has been so for many years and consequently is at risk of being the target of legal action which might have serious financial consequences. The Commission has voted to contribute \$5,000 toward the cost of the ADA plan, and requests that \$5,000 be set aside this year in a special fund to be added to as possible until there is enough in the fund to commission the study leading to a plan.</p>
Haskell Field Update	<p>Lotte has done an enormous amount of work on the accessible playgrounds. Carol has been formally appointed as Treasurer. She has spoken to Mrs. Adelson about the</p>	<p>Lotte has set up a website for the SMILE project and has connected it to PayPal to simplify donating. There will be a Playathon January</p>	<p>Lotte's goal is to have an article a week on the SMILE playground in the press. Lottie will ask for a donation from each of the sports</p>

Issue	Discussion	Decisions/Questions	Next Steps
	stone and plaque at the current playground. There is a new person at Boundless Playgrounds who needs to be brought up to speed on the project, and Sudbury is still without a Director of Parks and Rec, which complicates progress.	31, a grant \$5,000 has been received from Shaws, there will be Chef Night in February, and a Las Vegas night in February or march at Stowe Acres.	leagues that use the field.
Walkways	No update.		
Survey of the population of people with disabilities in Sudbury	The Survey Committee presented three versions of the survey, and the consensus of the Commission is that one version is best.	The mobility questions should be clustered. The information on the Commission on Disability should be moved to the front of the survey. Dave purchased the resident list on disk to use for addresses, but the list needs to be cleaned of duplicates. We would like to use the Town bulk permit for the return indicia too if possible.	Lotte will ask the UPS store if they will print and fold the survey. Kris will ask Maureen if we can send the survey using the Town bulk permit. The Commission would prepay the cost. Kris will ask Mark Thompson if the survey can be posted to be completed on line.
2009 Initiatives	The Commission listed the following as initiatives for calendar 2009 (or the remainder of FY 09): ADA Plan still top priority Haskell Field including bathrooms and shade structure Follow-up walking loop paving and drainage issues Survey Universal access/Visitability/ Liveable communities		At the next meeting, set priorities among the projects.

Issue	Discussion	Decisions/Questions	Next Steps
	<p>Follow ups on traffic lights that could be equipped with strobes, lighting for the crossing, and auditory signals</p> <p>Parking enforcement</p> <p>Community Access Monitors</p>		
New Business			
Authorization of voucher signature	Maureen Valente has written a letter giving Kris ongoing authority to authorize expenditures from the Commission account up to \$200 without prior approval from Maureen. Maureen must still give prior approval for expenditures over \$200.	The Commission VOTED unanimously to authorize Kristin Kiesel to sign vouchers for expenses from the Commission account.	
Membership	Peter has attended three meetings as a guest and has already been an asset to the Commission.	The Commission VOTED unanimously to recommend to the Selectmen that they appoint Peter Sargent as a Commission member.	Kris will write a letter to that effect to the Selectmen.
Next meeting	The next meetings will be Tuesdays, January 27, February 24, March 31, April 28, May 26, June 30 and July 28 at 7:00 in the Sudbury Senior Center.		

F:\commission on disability\2009\minutes 010609.doc