

Sudbury Commission on Disability

Minutes of meeting, Tuesday, May 26, 2009; 7:00 PM, Sudbury Senior Center

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

Absent: Anita Simon

Next meeting	Tuesday, June 30, 2009, 7:00 PM, Sudbury Senior Center, 40 Fairbank Road
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Issue	Discussion	Decisions/Questions	Next Steps
Minutes	The minutes of the April 28, 2009 meeting were accepted as written.		
Old Business			
Money Update	The Commission has requested a meeting with Maureen to discuss how to streamline getting access to Commission funds.	Maureen is open to meeting with Susana and carol, but wants Wayne Walker to be involved. She does not want to give the go-ahead for the Commission to fund equipment for the SMILE playground until it is clear that the Town is going ahead with the project.	Kris will call Wayne to remind him that Maureen has agreed to a meeting.
Monitoring the Commission on Disability telephone line	Does the computer system send out a notification that a voice mail has been received by the Commission?	Susan spoke with Mark Thompson, who has not been able to get the computer notification to work. Therefore, Commission calls are being forwarded to Susan's home phone.	When anyone send the Commission an e-mail, where does it go?
Correction to web page	The Commission on Disability web page has listed the wrong meeting time.		Mark Thompson has corrected the information.
Assessing Sudbury's Fields	Peter has sent the amended spreadsheet to Jody Kablack. Susan has developed a field	Once the checklist is finalized, the Commission members will receive training on how to use it and divide	Dave will review the checklist and get suggestions to Susan. Susan will send courtesy copies to

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	assessment checklist based on three sources. The thought is that after the assessments are complete, the next time the Town does work on the fields and infrastructure, changes can be made to make it more accessible.	up the fields to survey. The task will be a two person job. Perhaps some high school students could assist as part of their community service requirement. The smart level will need to be shared, but the Commission has enough tape measures for the project. The Commission thinks that some areas should have priority, such as Featherland park, since that is where graduation ceremonies are held.	Jim Kelly, Jody Kablack, Wayne Walker, and Nancy McShea. Jody has offered assistance, and Susan will find out what kind of assistance she can provide. Lotte will e-mail Susan with the names of the teachers in charge of Community Service projects at the high school.
Survey	Susan looked for some bids to print the survey. In order to protect confidentiality, she suggested that the survey be placed in an envelope. This is because the family's name will be on the address label, which would be attached to the survey itself if it were not in an envelope.	Would the use of the Town seal at the top of the survey deter some people from responding? Maureen has given Wayne Walker the task of reviewing the survey project as an "activity being done by a town entity on behalf of the town". A vocational technical high school might print the survey. Can we use the Town indicia for the mailing? It is important for people to understand what they get out of completing the survey; publicity can help.	Lotte will get prices for printing and folding from the UPS store. Kris will call Wayne Walker to ask about the meeting and the survey.
Haskell Field playground	Lotte has met with Wayne Walker. There has been some discussion with Boundless Playgrounds about the	There will be a fence around the playground, and fence posts will be on sale. Other naming rights have	There will be a meeting with Boundless Playgrounds, John Jalbert from Little Tykes, Sudbury,

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	project and some differences of opinion about the dates for the “Community Build”. Lotte’s group wants to install the playground in October due to weather and manpower issue; Boundless wants to do it in August. Lotte’s group has raised \$75,000 so far, \$30,000 of that on the auction.	been a topic of discussion. Lotte believes that Sudbury is committed to the project and that Wayne Walker is positively inclined toward the SMILE group. Lotte has explained that the Adelson Playground is not accessible, and was actually out of compliance with the law in that regard when it was built in 1990. It will be taken apart and reworked as part of the SMILE project. A coin drive is on for kindergarteners.	and the SMILE committee to iron out the final agreements. When the date is set, if possible, Kris will attend to document the agreements.
Library project	Ben is trying to get the library to purchase ZoomText which can serve as a magnifier on the screen, and also convert text to audible speech, which could be listened to with head phones. There are many options, such as the ability to change the background color to enhance readability. Ben has spoken to the library Director, who has said he will look into it.	The cost of the software is about \$395. It can magnify up to 16 powers, and is easier to use with less training than other similar software. Would the software need to be installed on the library’s server?	Ben will find out if the library can get a discount on software. Lotte will call Eastern Sales and see if there is a way for them to provide the equipment.
Publicity	It would be best if some item of publicity was put out each week so that the community knows the Commission on Disability exists and is active. Publicity around the survey would help increase participation.	A menu of topics for articles is needed. Anita has said she would work on this, but may not be able to participate as much as she had hoped. Lotte, Peter and Susan and Anita will met to work on the issue.	The publicity group will meet at 7:30 PM Wednesday, June 10 at Lotte’s house. Susan will post the meeting.
New Business			
Emergency Preparation Fair	The CERT and MRC will sponsor a	The Commission thinks it would be	Susan will let Carol Flynn know

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	public awareness fair September 13. Does the Commission on Disability want to have a table there?	a good idea to have a presence at the fair; it could help publicize the survey, help people with disabilities understand how to prepare for an emergency, and publicize the Braille versions of the brochure material that Ben brought back from a conference.	that the Commission on Disability wants to participate.
Market Discount Housing Needs Assessment	Beth Rust has asked for responses to a series of questions regarding the availability of affordable housing in Sudbury.	The Commission noted that there is a lack of housing in general for people with disabilities and especially for families caring for a member with disabilities; that the Sudbury housing stock is primarily not accessible; that services are weak (especially transportation) and that even in Musketahquid there are few accessible units and they do not become available often.	Kris will draft a response based on the Commission's remarks and e-mail it. Members will get suggested improvement to Kris.
Next meeting	The next meetings will be Tuesdays, June 30 and July 28 at 7:00 in the Sudbury Senior Center.		

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