

## **Sudbury Commission on Disability**

Minutes of meeting, Tuesday, March 3, 2010; 7:00 PM, Sudbury Senior Center

Present: Chair, Susan Stocker, Lotte Diomede, Ben Halsband, Kris Kiesel, Peter Sargent

Absent: David Mortimer

Guests: Jackie Kilroy

<b>Next meeting</b>	Tuesday, March 30, 7:00 PM, Sudbury Senior Center, 40 Fairbank Road
---------------------	---

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Decisions/Questions</b>	<b>Next Steps</b>
Minutes	The minutes of the Tuesday, January 26, 2010 meeting were accepted as submitted.		
Guest Jackie Kilroy was welcomed. Jackie was attending because she is interested in becoming a member of the Commission on Disability.			
<b>Old Business</b>			
Publicity	Peter didn't send out a press release yet, but the recruitment release is ready to go.	The press release will say that our focuses have been on handicap parking, walkways, ADA compliance, Braille at the schools. Jackie found out about the Commission on Disability on the Town website.	Peter will send out the press release.
Walkways	Susan spoke with Jody Kablack about the walkways. Jody referred her to the town website which has information on how to request a walkway, and a 2001 report on walkways.	Existing walkways deteriorate over time and become hazardous, with the intrusion of tree roots causing bumps, overhanging branches blocking the way, and the issue of private driveways creating barriers on the walkways as they are repaired.  Questions: What are the Town regulations regarding the intersections of private drives and	Commission members are asked to e-mail Susan with any additional walkway questions for Susan to ask Bill Place.

Issue	Discussion	Decisions/Questions	Next Steps
		<p>Town walkways when the drives are repaved? Can anyone petition for a walkway or only neighbors/abutters? Who has the responsibility for walkways along state routes like 117 or route 20, the town or the state? Should we develop a database of bad walkways?</p>	
ADA and Transition Plan	<p>A Google website to exchange information has been set up by the Disability Policy Consortium for the use of Commissions on Disability across the state. Susan posted a question on this site asking for responses from towns who have compiled their ADA plan. The responses she received indicate that a private consultant is the way to handle this.</p>	<p>Jackie pointed out that consultants can't work in a vacuum, and need to get buy-in from Town departments.</p>	<p>Susan will post another question on the site asking whether there have been identifiable benefits for towns that have developed their ADA plan.</p>
Braille signs at high school	<p>Lotte talked to Dr. Brackett to ask about addressing the sign issue at other schools. She also talked to the secretary at Loring School, who explained that there are Braille signs at all schools, but that room use changes, so the signs may not be correct. Susan sent the report about inaccurate Braille signs at the high school to Kevin Roessler, but has not had a response.</p>		<p>Lotte will speak with Kevin Roessler to learn when the signs will be corrected.</p> <p>Susan will speak with Dr. Brackett to arrange a time for her and Ben to visit the other schools to assess the correctness of the Braille signs. She will ask Dr. Brackett which school should be visited next.</p>
Annual report	<p>Susan passed the annual report around</p>		

Issue	Discussion	Decisions/Questions	Next Steps
	for Commission signatures. She will bring it to Dave to sign, since Dave is currently in rehab.		
Handicap Parking	Peter has not been able to get clarification about the law regarding fines for parking in the striped area designated for van unloading.	The fine for parking in a restricted area is less than that for parking in a handicap parking spot: which applies to the striped area?	
<b>New Business</b>			
Personal Emergency Preparedness Planning booklets?	Should we buy some of these booklets from DPC to use in case the Commission does any public awareness events?	The Commission VOTED not to buy the booklets until such time as there is an immediate use for them.	
Northwoods Condominium request for comments/public hearing	Northwoods is a condominium complex on the same hilltop as Frost Farm. One high-rise building and a swimming pool/solarium were built, but the rest of the planned development (more high rises) was never completed and eventually the swimming pool closed. A new developer, Castagna Construction, wants to modify the original site plan to allow 20% of the units to be owned and/or occupied by people under 55 years of age (currently all units must be for 55 and older), remove the requirement to provide home health services and residential care, and change the building plans, replacing the 2 planned high rises with 7 town house style units with two floors, two	The Commission discussed the plans, and VOTED to have Kris submit written comments on behalf of the Commission to the effect that 100% of the units should be “visitable” (having one entrance and doorway with no architectural barrier to entry for a person in a wheelchair, that there should be room set aside for the use of a visiting nurse on site, and that 10% of the units be made fully accessible, especially for the use of families with a child with disabilities. The Commission further recommends that all interior doors in all units be wide enough to accommodate a wheelchair, and that the sink in at least one bathroom be low enough	Kris will write and submit the comments.

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Decisions/Questions</b>	<b>Next Steps</b>
	bedrooms and attached garages for a total of 19 new units. Comments are due by March 11 and there will be a public hearing March 16.	for use by someone in a wheelchair.	
<b>Next meeting</b>	The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 30, 2010 at 7:00 in the Sudbury Senior Center. Further meetings will be: April 27, May 25, and June 29 (last Tuesday of each month).		

f:\commission on disability\2010\minutes 030310.doc