

Sudbury Commission on Disability

Minutes of meeting, Wednesday, September 1, 2010; 7:00 PM, Sudbury Senior Center, 40 Fairbank Road, Sudbury, MA 01776

Present: Chair, Susan Stocker, Deborah Galloway, Ben Halsband, Dina Johnson, Kris Kiesel, Jackie Kilroy, Peter Sargent

Absent: Lotte Diomede

Guests:

Next meeting	Tuesday, September 28, 7:00 PM, Sudbury Senior Center, 40 Fairbank Road, Sudbury, Massachusetts 01776
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Topics	Discussion	Decisions/Questions	Next Steps
Minutes	The minutes of the Tuesday, July 29, 2010 meeting were approved.		
Meeting Representation	Deborah Galloway will be attending the meetings on an interim basis until Kris Kiesel's permanent replacement is named.		
Old Business			
Guests at meeting	Anna Wood, Therapeutic Recreation Specialist, has been invited to our next meeting. Kris Kiesel provided a high level overview of Anna's role. The group discussed ways the Commission may be able to work with Anna.	The Commission agreed to put together a list of questions before the next meeting, and Susan will convey questions to Anna for further discussion.	Commission members to email questions to Susan by 9/13. Susan to consolidate questions and provide a list to Anna Wood before next Commission meeting.
Publicity	A new article entitled "In the spirit of cooperation and coordination" was written and distributed to the town paper, though it has not yet been published.	Group confirmed decision that John Brackett needs to review the Braille press release / article before it is sent to the paper.	Susan to call Dina with any comments on Braille article. Peter to either call or email

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	<p>The Braille press release / article was drafted and distributed to the Commission for feedback. Additionally, feedback needs to be collected from John Brackett before sending to the paper (per agreement at last meeting). There is a goal of distributing the final article to the paper this month.</p> <p>The Obama PSA was secured by Sudbury TV from the AdCouncil and the SCOD one pager was sent to Sudbury TV.</p>		<p>Dina with comments, or make them directly.</p> <p>Lotte to provide update on whether she reached Dr. Brackett over the summer to provide an update on the Braille project and to let him know about the proposed article and timing of sending him a draft for his review.</p> <p>Dina to email Peter photo of Ben to accompany the article.</p>
Braille Project	<p>The Braille project continues. L/S High School, Curtis Middle School, and Noyes are complete. Next are Haynes, Loring, and Nixon. Dina’s weekday bandwidth is narrowing considerably (during business hours) based on new employment so the group identified resources to assist with the remaining schools.</p>		<p>Jackie to contact principal of Haynes to initiate the project at Haynes.</p> <p>Lotte to give an update on whether Loring can be scheduled this month.</p> <p>Susan to reach out to Nixon principal on</p>

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			<p>scheduling.</p> <p>Dina and Susan to email Jackie samples of communications sent to principals of Noyes, LS, and Curtis, respectively, so Jackie can utilize consistent content for Haynes.</p>
Walkways	<p>Group discussed how to best track walkways needing repair. Jackie created a database for group feedback. The two categories identified for tracking are roads where there are no walkways, and walkways needing repair.</p>		<p>Susan to send a note to Jody Kablack and Bill Place to introduce Jackie.</p> <p>Jackie to send a communication to Jody and Bill to ask for an update.</p>
Recruitment	<p>Discussion about need to recruit members. Idea came up on whether the town newspaper would run the “ad” that was sent to Sudbury TV if they had any unsold ad space.</p>		<p>Peter to inquire.</p>
Connecting with other Commissions in other towns	<p>Last month we discussed how we could share knowledge with other disability commissions in other towns. A LinkedIn search yielded that there are a few groups out there that we could join</p>	<p>It was agreed that we will not <i>initiate</i> the creation of any groups of our own at this time and that we will not post information on any social media sites on behalf of SCOD.</p>	

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	<p>simply to glean information. For example, Disability.gov has a LinkedIn group.</p>		
<p>Sudbury Farms</p>	<p>Last month Ben noted that there are no Braille signs in the Sudbury Farms restrooms. He mentioned this to the manager, and was told they would look into the matter.</p>		<p>Ben will follow up to see if Braille signs have been installed. If they haven't, Peter will follow-up.</p>
<p>New Business</p>			
<p>Other key buildings lacking Braille compliance</p>	<p>It was recently discovered that the Flynn Building and the Concord Courthouse are not Braille compliant. It was also discussed that the town typically hosts the holiday party in the Hosmer House, which is not accessible for many disabled individuals.</p>		<p>Ben to contact the Concord Commission on Disability about the Concord Courthouse.</p> <p>Susan to contact Jody Kablack regarding the Flynn building and Maryanne Bilodeau about the Hosmer House.</p> <p>Deborah to check Shaw's to see if they have Braille at bathrooms and elevator.</p> <p>Dina to draft a letter for group consideration,</p>

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			<p>should we want to have a consistent communication to inform local businesses of Braille compliance regulations (when we find they are not compliant).</p>
Remote participation	<p>Group discussed whether we thought remote participation in meetings should be permitted (whereas right now it's against the law to do so). A point of view has been requested.</p>	<p>The group agreed that the law should be changed to enable dial-in capabilities, as it would extend participation for certain circumstances. The type of technology, which was most thought to be appropriate was a multi-person conference bridge (though other technologies were discussed and also thought to be feasible).</p>	<p>Group to send Susan thoughts before next meeting.</p> <p>Susan to craft a statement on the matter and send a consolidated point of view on behalf of the commission.</p> <p>Individuals may send individual responses as well, should they want to.</p>
Easter Seals Assistive Technology	<p>Easter Seals wants to come visit to discuss a partnership with us.</p>		<p>Peter to look into what they are doing and make a recommendation as to whether there is a benefit to partnering.</p>
Upcoming	<p>The following activities are coming up:</p>		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking surges & “Did you know” article. • Discussion next month on what we are looking to accomplish. 		
Adjourn		The Commission VOTED unanimously to adjourn at 9:00 PM.	
Next meeting	The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 28, 2010 at 7:00 in the Sudbury Senior Center. (All subsequent meetings are currently planned for the last Tuesday of each month).		