

Commission on Disability Meeting
April 25, 2013

Attendees: Anna Wood, Renee Bordner, Lotte Diomedede, Steve Parker

Absent: Peter Sargent, Peter Schaer

Guests: Deb Galloway, Council on Aging Director

Meeting Start: 7:09pm

Approval of Minutes from March 18, 2013:

Renee Motioned to Approve

Lotte Second motion

New Business

Transportation: Deb Galloway was at the meeting to discuss the Metrowest Regional Transit Authority and the current transportation program that is running per request of the commission.

- Sudbury pays into the MBTA and has been doing so for years without using the system. About 5 years ago, the MBTA transferred the service to the Metrowest Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA). The program started with Kris Kiesel (old COA Director) and Deb has helped to keep the program running since then.
- Deb serves on the Board of Directors for the MWRTA and goes to monthly meetings.
- The program is called the "Senior Van"
- Deb believes the town of Sudbury pays between \$100,000 and \$120,000 annually towards the transit program.
- Annually, the program services about 35 people over the age of 60 regularly and 8 under the age of 60. The driver is paid \$40,000 per year and drives people from 8:30-3:30pm most days, Monday-Friday. The MWRTA takes care of the van maintenance, gas, and driver.
- Deb invoices the MWRTA monthly for the number of rides/gas/time and the money is accessed from a revolving fund for the program.
- Deb would like to see a new fixed route created connecting Marlboro and Wayland. This would allow people more access to grocery stores, shopping, etc. Deb is interested in the COD helping her advocate for this.
- COD wants to advertise ride program more. Anna will be converting the current paper registration form into an online document so people can show interest and request rides online. Once we are able to gather more interest, the COD wants to help Deb advocate for more drives, more busses, and a fixed route. We will be looking for ideal times, locations, and let people know that rides are "subject to availability"
- Deb submits an annual report for the transportation program and will get that to the COD so we can see the current #s.
- **Moving forward:**
 - Anna creating program interest form online
 - Adding info about ride program to the COD website
 - COD would like for Peter to write an article and submit it to the paper to educate the community about the program
 - Deb going to the MWRTA meeting again on June 3, 2013.

Old Business

Restaurant Project: Ahead of schedule!

- Renee stuffed the Restaurant letters and mailed them out to all 23 restaurants on April 15, 2013.
- We have one letter that has been returned to us, wrong address.
- COD members will be following up with the restaurants just to confirm that they received the mailing on April 26, 2013.

Handicap Parking: Tabled the discussion tonight. Peter will be writing an article so we are going to discuss again at next meeting.

Other Business

- State wide COD meeting on June 7, 2013 in Marlboro at the Royal Plaza Hotel. This will be a day long conference allowing CODs to voice concerns and needs within communities.
- Renee, Lotte, and Anna plan to RSVP.

Next Meeting:

May 30

June 20

Adjourn 8:33pm