

Sudbury Commission on Disability

Date: September 25, 2018
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: Thompson Room, Flynn Building, 278 Old Sudbury Road, Sudbury
Members Present: Kay Bell, Pat Guthy, Susan Iuliano
Members Absent:
Others: Mike Melnik and Elaine Jones, Co-chairs of Sudbury Permanent Building Committee; Joel Bargmann, AIA and Neil Joyce, Sr. Project Manager for building projects for Loring Parsonage and Town Hall

Public Commenters: Rebecca Chizzo

Convene

The meeting came to order at 10:00 AM.
A quorum (at least a majority of 3) was present.

1 Select Chair.

MSV: Kay Bell moved and Susan Iuliano seconded the appointment of Pat Guthy to chair the commission.

- Pat Guthy indicated her willingness to accept of the role of chair until May when the Board of Selectmen next swear in new appointees to boards and committees.

The motion carried unanimously.

2 Assign Clerk to take minutes.

- Kay Bell volunteered to record minutes of the commission meeting.

3 Discuss accessibility issues for the Town Hall and Loring Parsonage.

- Mike Melnick explained that Town Building Inspector, Mark Herweck, at one point understood that the Loring Parsonage project would either need to make the front entrance to the building fully accessible in addition to the other public entrance in the plan or seek a special exemption from the MA Architectural Access Board. Later Mr. Herweck learned that neither arrangement is required, so the project may proceed as currently planned with one fully accessible public entrance.
Elaine Jones expressed that from time to time the Permanent Building Committee may request input from the Commission on Disability related to projects under their consideration.
- Joel Bargmann, AIA, architect for the design of the Town Hall project will meet in the near future with Tom Hopkins of the MA Architectural Access Board to review all aspects of the three main options for the project to assure compliance with all MAAB and federal Architectural Access Board regulations. Mr. Bargmann made a lengthy presentation of the various options, all of which incorporate mechanisms (elevators, lifts, ramps, and or change of grade) to make the spaces, resources, services, and programs accessible to all, including people living with disabilities.

- The Permanent Building Committee seeks a letter from the Commission on Disability to the Community Preservation Committee supporting the use of Community Preservation Funds to implement the elements of the Town Hall Project and the Loring Parsonage Project.

Public Comment

- Rebecca Chizzo, Whitetail Lane, addressed the commission explaining the following barriers to full and safe access to participation. She believes there is not an accessible path to Lincoln-Sudbury High School at the crosswalk at Lincoln and Sawmill due to problems with condition of the surface, obstruction from parked vehicles, and seasonal obstructions of snow and mud. She also points out that a number of accessible curb cuts are now in deteriorating condition.

Ms. Chizzo recommends that the COD become a presence on Facebook, work on improving transportation resources for people living with disabilities, promote keeping the front door of Town Hall operable, support use of Community Preservation funds to improve accessibility, make an effort to become knowledgeable about how many people live with disabilities in Town, inform the public of accommodations available, gather and make available a list of resources for people living with disabilities, and use Sudbury TV to publicize resources.

4 Discuss COD Mission Statement and potential revisions.

- Members discussed existing wording and the language in the enabling law for Commissions on Disability. The commission composed the following statement of our mission.
 - The Commission on Disability was established by the Town of Sudbury, by a Town Meeting vote, to cause the full integration and participation of people with disabilities in our Town, in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 40, s.8J. The Commission works independently and in collaboration with other Town boards and departments to eliminate barriers and to assist people living with disabilities in becoming empowered to advocate for themselves.

MSV Kay Bell moved and Susan Iuliano seconded the adoption of the language above as the Mission Statement of the Sudbury Commission on Disability.
The motion carried unanimously.

5 Discuss COD Bylaws?Rules and Regulations and potential revisions.

- The consensus of members was to postpone consideration of this item to a future meeting.

6 Discuss further education efforts for COD members; determine outreach plans.

- The commission discussed continuing our effort to become informed of the practices and resources extant in our community that may be helpful " to eliminate barriers and to assist people living with disabilities in becoming empowered to advocate for themselves."
- The commission will arrange meetings and post their timing, location, and agenda at least 48 hours in advance in compliance with MA Open Meeting Law.

- Commission members "may attend a conference, training program or event" without posting those events/activities as open meetings providing members do not "deliberate at such gatherings."
- After discussion the commission agreed on the following tasks:

Task KayBell: Arrange a meeting with Lynn Purro of Sudbury TV.

Task Susan Iuliano: Arrange IT training for commission members.

Task Pat Guthy: Arrange a meeting with Sheila Cusolito Executive Director of Sudbury Housing Authority.

- The commission will arrange meetings with other Town departments in the near future: Board of Health, Planning Department, Permanent Building Committee, Parks and Recreation, and perhaps others.

7 Discuss recruitment efforts for new members.

- The consensus of members was to postpone consideration of this item to a future meeting.

8 Plan future meetings.

- Next meeting of Sudbury Commission on Disability will meet Thursday, October 2, 2018 at 10 AM in the Thompson Room on the second floor of the Flynn Building, 278 Old Sudbury Road, Sudbury.
- The commission will discuss assigning members to be liaisons to other Town committees/boards whose mission overlaps with our own.

Adjournment

MSV Kay Bell moved and Susan Iuliano seconded the motion to adjourn.

The motion carried unanimously.

- The September 25, 2018 meeting of the Sudbury Commission on Disability at 12:57 PM.

A true copy attest: Kathleen (Kay) F. Bell
Clerk

October 2, 2018
Date