

Commission on Disability Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: 4/29/19 10:09 am

Location: Thompson Room, Flynn Building, 278 Old Sudbury Rd, Sudbury

Members Present: Pat Guthy (PG), Kay Bell (KB), Lisa Kouchakdjian (LK), Sue Rushfirth (SR), Doug Frey (DF)

Members Absent:

Others: Caroline Santangelo

Convene: PG called the meeting to order at 10:09 am. Doug Frey volunteered to take minutes of the meeting.

Discussion: We discussed Voc/Tech options for Sudbury students and the districting of various Voc/Tech schools. We assumed Sudbury was a member of the Assabet district, but that may not be the case. We need to understand the broad landscape of Voc/Tech options for Sudbury students. We need to understand the responsibility of the Town if a child attends a Voc/Tech school. Communication of these options needs to be done by the appropriate Town department.

KB will forward Chapter 74, CMR 4.00 603, which provides guidelines for the Voc/Tech process. A question arose as to which law determines which Town Department is responsible for the management of the Voc/Tech process and PG asked the Committee to share their thoughts on this topic.

DF provided an update on the recent Transportation Committee meeting he attended. The majority of the meeting was a presentation by a Lyft representative. Of interest to the COD is that Lyft will provide wheelchair accessible rides to Sudbury residents and these rides can be requested in advance.

PG discussed the recent difficulties at the Town election site involving the difficulty of using the voting machine and the lack of a place to sit for an aide of a disabled resident.

We agreed that the COD should have responsibility to respond to emails directed to the COD. PG will discuss with Town Manager office.

Copies of the Livable Sudbury were distributed and members were encouraged to read it, if they haven't already.

KB mentioned SMILE/Sudbury was helping with a fund raiser for Savers. It was suggested that we ask for an accessible/adaptive equipment listing from SMILE/Sudbury to possibly include on our website.

KB distributed the press release regarding COD. The members agreed the press release was fine to send to the Town Crier.

PG discussed finalizing the Goals/Tasks document for COD and sharing with Town Manager and BOS.

KB discussed a recent Park and Rec Programs brochure. which offered a limited number of adult and youth adaptive/accessible offerings.

KB discussed professional development sessions offered by the Mass Office on Disabilities.

PG discussed MVP meeting and SR volunteered to attend 5/14/19 meeting.

Caroline Santangelo attended the meeting and expressed her interest in joining the COD. She has a marketing B2B background and could be helpful in assessing needs of the disabled community.

PG mentioned a meeting scheduled for 5/20/19 and discussed having future meetings at different locations and times, perhaps in the evenings. PG proposed COD come with ideas at next meeting.

PG proposed reviewing Goals and Tasks at our next meeting, scheduled for 5/13/19 at 10 am in the Flynn Building.

LK moved and SR seconded that the document "Guidelines for Public Comment" as revised, be adopted as COD policy. The motion passed unanimously with 4 members (PG, SR, LK and KB) present.

PG moved and LK seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously with 4 members (PG, SR, LK, KB) present.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.