

# Sudbury Commission on Disability (COD) Meeting Minutes

January 5, 2023 Virtual Meeting

Members Present

Kathleen Bell (Chair), Cameron LaHaise, Pat Brown, Liesje Quinto

Absent: None

Kay Bell called the meeting to order at 7:34 and reviewed the protocols under which remote meetings are conducted and took a roll call

## **1. Approval of Minutes:**

December 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes accepted as amended.

Unanimous approval by roll call vote.

Roll Call:

Liesje Quinto - Yes

Cameron LaHaise - Yes

Pat Brown - Aye

Kay Bell – Aye

## **2. Reports from the Chair:**

- Town Manager Check in – N/A for December 2023. Kay followed up on three invoices from the October event with the library. Signatures were not requested from the COD.
- DEI- No correspondence in December.
- Transportation Committee – Select Board has review Transportation projects. Projects must be come operationalized. Becoming a staff run program.
- SEPAC – N/A
- Council on Aging – New liaison Marilyn Tromer

### **3. Discussion with applicants**

#### **Robert (Bob) May**

- Participant in masterplan taskforce. Bob is concerned with accessibility at the facilities within Sudbury. He is interested in Sudbury's Dementia Friendly initiative. He believes the COD aligns with town initiatives. He is concerned that we need infrastructure at locations within Sudbury to be able to allow people with disabilities to be able to be employed at these locations. His background is negotiation, finance and for the last 10 years he has been working in the law offices at HP. He wants to be an advocate for the disabled within Sudbury.

#### **Cheryl Wallace**

- Cheryl is disabled. She is not a child or a senior and she finds it difficult to find programs for people in her age bracket. She has a real-life experience of living with a disability in Sudbury.

#### **Pat Guthy**

- Former chair of the COD. Has a long history of advocacy and teaching children with disabilities. She spoke about receiving funding for the ADA Transition Plan during her tenure on the COD. Her focus is on educating people in the town on the importance of accessibility and inclusion for people with disabilities.

#### **Discussion on the three applicants:**

There are a maximum of 5 seats available. One seat may be filled by a town official.

Cameron recommends writing a letter to the Select Board. Pat agreed as did Liesje.

Kay entertains a motion to write a letter to recommend appointing all three candidates to the COD.

Cameron moves the motion. Pat seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Liesje Quinto - Yes

Cameron LaHaise - Yes

Pat Brown - Aye

Kay Bell – Aye

#### **4. Review of Transition Plan KPI Report. Kay shared the KPI reports.**

- Pat Brown questioned if we have received any of the grants that Sandra Duran had applied for in September. As the time of the meeting it was unknown.
- There was a discussion about subcommittees. Pat gave guidance that a successful subcommittee is useful when the subcommittee can lessen the work for the group.
- Liesje comments on the misuse of accessible parking that has been occurring during December. Kay recommends discussing this issue with Chief Nix. Liesje recommends also leveraging our relationship with the Sudbury Chamber of Commerce. Pat recommends creating a press release to share with Chief Nix and to share it separately with the Chamber of Commerce.
- Pat questioned if we should ask people reaching out to the COD for information via email and text should disclose their address in Sudbury. Currently this is not a requirement.

#### **5. Annual Report**

Kay made a motion to approve the Annual Report for 2022 to be approved as amended. Pat seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Liesje Quinto - Aye

Cameron LaHaise - Aye

Pat Brown – Aye

Kay Bell – Aye

**6. 2023 Goals**

Discussed list of 2023 Goals. It was decided that the initiatives for 2023 would be Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), Education and Outreach. It was decided that Cameron would take the extensive list of potential goals and organize items in those categories with timelines for the February 02, 2023 meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Cameron LaHaise. Pat Brown seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Pat Brown - Aye

Liesje Quinto - Yes

Cameron LaHaise - Yes

Kay Bell – Aye

**Meeting adjourned at 10:40**