

Sudbury Commission on Disability Meeting Minutes

December 4, 2024

Open Meeting

Cameron LaHaise, Chair, called the virtual meeting to order with roll call at 7:34pm.

Members present : Cheryl Wallace, Liesje Quinto

Cameron read remote meeting protocols. Karyn was selected to take meeting minutes.

Cameron gave the opportunity for public comment.

Action Items and Discussion

1. Vote to approve any outstanding minutes
 - a. No outstanding minutes

2. Update: Transportation Committee and Sudbury Doing Good
 - a. Cheryl and Liesje attended the Sudbury Doing Good event. Everyone in attendance seemed to be having a great time.
 - b. Cheryl gave a Transportation Committee update. The Select Board approved enough money so residents have access to Go Sudbury, Sudbury Connect, MWRTA Dial-a-Ride, and Hospital vans until FY25. The Transportation Committee is working on advertising more through the use of banner ads on SudburyTV as well as social media channels.

3. Potential new COD Members
 - a. Two people have applied to be members of the COD. Cameron will email asking if they are available in January or February for interviews. The COD will provide the interview questions to the candidates in advance.
 - b. Discussion around what questions should be asked. Questions decided on are:
 - i. What motivates you to serve on the Commission on Disability?
 - ii. Does your lifestyle allow you to serve on the Committee? Explain to members monthly meeting schedule, opportunities to be a liaison of other Committees in town, participation in the Accessible Trick-or-Treat, etc.
 - iii. How do you build relationships and collaborate with others? Your example can be past work relationships, volunteer work, advocacy work, etc.
 - iv. If you are comfortable sharing, please describe a situation where you successfully advocated for accessibility or disability rights.

4. Remote and Hybrid Meeting Access
 - a. Nancy Brumback, Co-Chair for Program and Action and Chair of the Legislative Action Committee which oversees League of Women Voters activity in the State House joined the meeting to speak to remote and hybrid meeting access.

- i. Nancy gave an overview on the history of Open Meeting Law and why an emergency provision was placed so municipalities could meet remotely. She also updated the Commission on what is happening with the state law and provision. There is a feeling that the Governor will extend the provision on March 31st so things stay as they are right now where each committee and commission decides if they want to meet remotely, in-person, or hybrid.
 - ii. COD members expressed interest in writing letters to our local representatives that remote access be required for public participation.
- b. Cheryl makes a motion to propose that the COD in Sudbury writes letters to local representatives in support of remote meeting access. Liesje seconds. Cameron asks if Sudbury Public Schools can be included in outreach. Cheryl amends the motion to include outreach to local representatives and Sudbury Public Schools. Liesje seconds the motion. Motion passes.
 - i. Cameron offers to write a letter that will go to local representatives; Liesje will write a letter that will go to Sudbury Public Schools.
 - ii. Letters will be reviewed in January for a vote.

5. COD Goals/Events/Initiatives

- a. Discussion about events and what initiatives we want to do this year to educate the community.
- b. Cameron gave an update about partnering with the LS SEPAC for an event around stigma.
- c. Discussion on events the COD has provided the community in the past.
- d. Commission tasked to do research on speakers as well as connect with other committees and commissions on potential ideas. These ideas can be brought back to the February COD meeting.

6. Annual Report due January 31, 2025

- a. Cameron will write the annual report. Report will be reviewed at the January meeting by members. Discussion regarding what should be included in the Annual Report. Members felt the Overcoming Hurdles with Lisa Drennan would be important to mention as well as the Accessible Trick-or-Treat event, and participation in Sudbury Pride and Sudbury Doing Good events.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Cameron, seconded by Liesje, unanimously approved by roll call vote at 8:42PM.

Minutes submitted by Karyn Jones.