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COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
Tufts Library/Butterfly Room
March 18, 2015
Minutes

PPRINTED

PRESENT:

Lisa Jennings, Chairman
Richard Johnson
Hank Goldman
Ron Evans

NOT PRESENT:

Francesco Hladysz
Gerry Begonis

ALSO PRESENT:

Mayor Sue Kay
Jeanne Savoy

Chairman Jennings called the March 18, 2015 meeting of the Commission on Disabilities to order at 7:00PM.

ADA COORDINATOR REPORT

Chairman Jennings stated Ms. McDonough reported there are no current projects underway due to snow on the ground. We have been concentrating on snow removal efforts over the last 6-8 weeks and are just now seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. There are plans in the upcoming projects that are on the horizon and I will keep you updates as the process moves forward.

Mayor Kay asked Chairman Jennings how it would be best to inform COD when a project is going forward and what handicap aspects are being implemented in a project. Chairman Jennings stated it would be great to be "in the loop" and informed about upcoming projects the town is working on and/or considering working on. In this regard COD can look at projects and possibly advise additional ADA compliance issues if/when necessary.

CUMBERLAND FARMS ADA ISSUES

Mr. Goldman advised Mayor Kay of the ongoing issues with the new Cumberland Farms location at Park & Main Street. Mayor Kay asked Mr. Goldman if he would be so kind as to forward to her all contact information for the people with which he has spoken to regarding this parking issue. Mr. Goldman stated he will forward all of his correspondence to her office immediately. Chairman Jennings stated it would be great if COD knew what its roll was exactly and to what extent a member can enforce.

TEMPORARY & MOVEABLE HANDICAP PARKING SPACES

Mr. Goldman suggested a great Eagle Scout project to make a dozen handicap signs on wooden poles in buckets with cement footing to be placed where needed by DPW at special events. Mayor Kay agreed this is a great idea.

LIST OF GREAT CAPSTONE PROJECTS

COD members need to make a list of Capstone Project ideas. Some of the current ideas include:

- Community service
- Mapping accessible places
- Mapping accessible recreational places

EMERY ESTATE - UPDATE

Mayor Kay stated Emery Estate will be adding handicap bathrooms and handicap parking to the site.

IS POLICE PATROL POSSIBLE VIA COD FUNDS?

Mr. Goldman asked Mayor Kay is police patrol of handicap parking spaces in town possible once a month if the town used COD funds to pay for police officer's time; in order to deter people from parking in handicap spaces and/or to raise awareness of the spaces. Possibly get an article or two written about the patrol happening; also to help raise awareness.

MAYOR KAY MEMORANDUM (handout)

RE: PARKING FINES AMENDMENT

Chairman Jennings stated "Handicap Zone" is not a term; it should be called "Handicap Space". Parking Fines were recently increased in the town and range from \$25 up to \$200.

Chairman Jennings stated the Commission on Disabilities is in support of the Memorandum but asks that the wording be respectfully changed from "Handicap Zone" to "Handicap Space".

Mayor Kay suggested doing a series of pro-mo's around handicap parking violations and putting them up on the COD web site:

- What is a curb-cut?
- Get printers to make posters and ask for 50% off

MINUTES

Mr. Evans made a MOTION to APPROVE minutes of November 19, 2014. Mr. Johnson SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED. Mr. Goldman abstained.

Mr. Evans made a MOTION to APPROVE minutes of December 17, 2014. Mr. Johnson SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

SUPPORT REQUESTS

PROM ANGELS

Mr. Goldman made a MOTION to SUPPORT PROM ANGELS in the amount of \$500. Mr. Johnson SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Chairman Jennings stated she will reach out to the people from Best Buddies and see if they are still planning to hold their end of year event and if they would like support from COD.

FEDERATION FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Chairman Jennings stated this is a conference to be held on March 7, 2015. This Federation works with people on transition to adult care. 529 College plan; Able Act; for people with disability to save for education. This is to encourage people with disabilities to save. It is for families with more money.

AWARDS EVENT

Ms. Savoy suggested COD think about the event. Chairman Jennings stated COD has moved the event from May to the fall. October is disabilities month.

NEXT MEETING

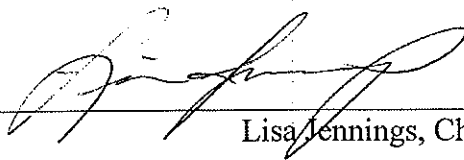
The next meeting of the Commission on Disabilities will be held on April 15, 2015 at 7:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Johnson made a MOTION to ADJOURN at 8:25PM. Mr. Goldman SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Christine Malloy
Recording Secretary

Approved by:



Lisa Jennings, Chairman

Dated:

4-15-15