

**COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES**  
**Whipple Senior Center**  
**182 Green Street, Weymouth, MA 02191**  
**September 13, 2017**

2017 NOV -9 PM 3: 00

**Minutes**

**PRESENT:**

Hank Goldman, Chairman  
Lisa Jennings, Vice Chairman  
Richard Johnson  
Ron Evans  
Gerry Begonis  
Linda Sera

**NOT PRESENT:**

Andrea Feeney  
John MacLeod

Chairman Goldman called the meeting of the Commission on Disabilities to order at 7:00PM.

**MINUTES**

Chairman Goldman tabled the minutes of May 2017 and June 2017 until the next COD meeting.

**ADA COORDINATORS REPORT**

- Lisa Jennings stated her plans to revive the question of the ADA Coordinators role; what she does and what she should be doing and presenting to COD monthly. Lisa stated she will ask this question to Ted Langill in his meeting with him this month and report back to the committee.
- COD committee member had confrontation with a resident; resident appeared at COD committee member's home and explained their issue with a town employee. Resident should contact ADA Coordinator and or Mayor's Office for help in the future.
- Or visit [www.MassOptions.org](http://www.MassOptions.org) your link to community services
- Resident reached out to COD Facebook page asking how to fix issue of accessibility issue at South Shore Hospital after 8:00PM; there are no accessible doors unlocked after 8:00PM. Resident contacted Patient Relations at South Shore Hospital and was told it was for unspecified "safety reasons" that the doors are locked. So that's no accessible entrance or exit after 8:00PM. COD asked the ADA Coordinator to inquire at South Shore Hospital or with the State of Massachusetts in regards to this accessibility issue and report back to the committee.

**SEPAC REPORT**

Chairman Goldman was unable to attend this month's meeting. The next SEPAC meeting will be on the first Tuesday in October. The President of SEPAC has moved out of town and they are in the process of realigning their board.

## **LIFE, ANIMATED: Speaking Engagement on September 21, 2017 at 6:30PM**

Ms. Jennings stated Ron Suskind will be at Abigail Adams to speak on September 21, 2017 at 6:30PM. The speaking engagement is FREE; his book will be available for purchase in both paperback and hardcover. The school will be showing Finding Dory for children to watch while adults (only) are at the speaking engagement.

Register in advance on Weymouth Public Schools website.

## **UPDATE on SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE**

Ms. Jennings stated there were two meetings:

- 8/8/17 – Feasibility Study/Site Analysis, and
- 8/22/17 – Regarding The Great Configurations

There are still many, many issues and concerns. How would we do this? Added an option, deleted an option. Grades 5 – 8 all at one location. Re-district: Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade at Primary School; 6<sup>th</sup> grade, 7<sup>th</sup> grade, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade all at Middle School; and 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> at High School.

The costs to make Chapman accessible is making the project cost prohibitive; and they're not anywhere near a design.

## **PENDING ISSUES**

1. Accessibility awareness awards
2. Training community access monitor
3. Annual disability summit is September 15, 2017

## **FARMER'S MARKET**

Ms. Jennings reported COD table has been a success. She has had pictures of the beach wheelchair at the table and people have come by to ask all kinds of questions. Next week COD is partnering with Youths with Disabilities; stop by the table and visit.

## **PUMPKIN GIVE-A-WEY October 14, 2017**

Ms. Jennings suggested at the COD table that COD collect comic books for children in hospital. Residents donate a comic book and get a ticket for a pumpkin. Great Pumpkin Give-A-Wey is Saturday, October 14, 2017 from 12-4PM at Weymouth High School parking lot.

## **SERVICE ANIMALS/EMOTIONAL SUPPORT DOGS**

Committee members had discussions regarding what the service is that these animals provide. Where these animals are taken, into what types of facilities, etc.

**NEXT MEETING**

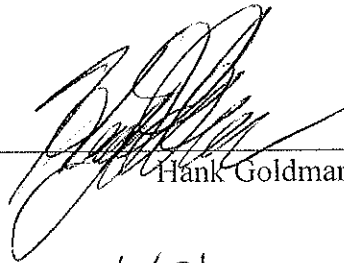
The next meeting of the Commission on Disabilities will be held on October 11, 2017.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Johnson made a MOTION to ADJOURN at 8:30PM. Ms. Jennings SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Christine Malloy  
Recording Secretary

Approved by:



Hank Goldman, Chairman

Dated:

11/8/17