

Commission on Disabilities, September 4, 2012 <> _

Commission on Disabilities Meeting Minutes

September 4th, 2012 (7:30pm)

Little Red School House, Cudworth Road

Members in Attendance: Jeff Dougan, Chairperson

Jerry Fierimonte, Council on Aging Representative

John McLaughlin

Megan Sommer

Anne Breen

1. Call to Order. Chairperson Jeffrey Dougan called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

2. Acceptance of Minutes. It was agreed that the minutes from the last meeting had been previously accepted.

3. Old Business.

A) MBTA, Greenbush Station – Hearings have been held but the MBTA has not attended. They are now being fined for their errors and the fines are up to \$500,000. John McLaughlin volunteered to reach out to the BOS liaison, John Denehey, reminding the BOS that the issue is still ongoing and that the Town of Scituate should not accept ownership of the areas in question. The CoD members also agree that talking to Al Bangert regarding the problem at Greenbush would be beneficial.

B) Marine Center – The status of an accessible gangway is undetermined. Jeffrey Dougan will reach out to Harbormaster, Mark Patterson to verify that it is being built in compliance. Also, Jeffrey Dougan will perform a site visit in order to verify whether handrails have been extended in two areas.

C) Inn at Scituate Harbor, Dog Watch Pub – Anne Breen will perform a site visit in order to determine whether the downstairs pub is accessible.

D) Welch Co. – There are two painted HC parking spaces located between Out of the Blue and the new Welch Co. with no traffic sign directing drivers. John McLaughlin volunteered to photo the site for the next meeting. Also, there are multiple entrances in the original Welch Co. building that remain inaccessible. Jeff Dougan will email the building inspector, Neil Dougan, about the status of these entrances.

E) Recreation Department – Handicapped accessible port-o-johns have been placed in many locations around town, including at the schools. The CoD agrees that next spring they will send a reminder to again use the proper units and also to place them appropriately. Also, the Purple Dinosaur Park accessible swing had been missing a strap. Megan Sommer will visit the site to see if the DPW has fixed it.

F) Beach Accessibility – It is the understanding of the CoD that this is to be addressed by a proposed Beach Commission.

G) Council on Aging, Van Maintenance – The CoD (Jeffrey Dougan, Megan Sommer and John McLaughlin) signed forms authorizing payment for fuel and service, which Jerry Fierimonte will drop off to Florence Choate.

H) GATRA – There was discussion on the proposed routes of transportation although the service is not running yet. Jerry Fierimonte voiced concerns that GATRA would service the Harbor and North Scituate leaving many citizens without a ride. This means that Scituate would now have a fixed route service when GATRA should be equivalent to The Ride. Jeffrey Dougan will meet with Florence Choate to talk about adjusting the route to provide the door to door service desired. Jerry Fierimonte stated that the Council on Aging will meet next Wednesday at 6pm at the Senior Center and Anne Breen has volunteered to attend if needed.

I)JW's Burger Bar – The CoD agreed to visit the restaurant at their convenience and discuss at a later date.

4.New Business.

A)Scituate Community Bldg – The CoD agrees that they need to keep abreast of decisions of use and accessibility at the Community Building.

B)The CoD has tentatively scheduled the next meeting for Monday, October 29th at 7:30. Simone Zimmerman will verify that the Little Red School House will be available.

5.Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 8:20pm.

Submitted by Simone Zimmerman