

Commission on Disabilities, March 29, 2012 <>

COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

Thursday, March 29, 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeff Dougan, Chairperson; Megan Rommick; Anne Breen. ALSO PRESENT: Jim Fiormonte, Council on Aging; Jim McLoughlin, Scituate resident.

1. Call to Order. Chairperson Jeff Dougan called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm at the Little Red Schoolhouse on Cudworth Road.

2. Acceptance of Past Minutes. Tabled.

3. Old Business.

A)MBTA – Greenbush

oFine Hearing – The hearing has been rescheduled. Mr. Dougan said that new hearings will be held in May, he said that the MBTA said they had not been properly notified about prior hearings and they have been granted a new hearing. Mr. Dougan said he may not be able to be present but he has been at the past two hearings and he will present written testimony if he cannot be present. Mr. Fiormonte asked about the fines.

B)Transportation Options. Mr. Dougan said the 12 person van is up and running which is great, and that the CoD can provide assistance to the Council on Aging with fuel and maintenance from its budget.

oGATRA Update. Mr. Fiormonte said that as of July 1 this bus service will be serving Scituate. Mr. Dougan asked thanked Mr. Fiormonte to thank Florence Choate of the Council on Aging for her diligence and hard work bringing this to the Town.

C)Marine Center

oUpdate. Mr. Dougan reported that the gangway and docks have been ordered and that due to high tides there will be a large grade at low tide. Ms. Rommick mentioned the handrails and Mr. Dougan said he will check to see if they have been installed, he believes that they have.

D)Inn @ Scituate Harbor

oThe new pub, accessible route concerns. Ms. Rommick said that she researched previous minutes about the situation with the inn and that she found information about the ramp at the inn from June 2004. Mr. Dougan said that in the past the pub area had not been in use and that concerns have come with the use of the pub area with new ownership of the inn. Mr. Dougan said that change of use would trigger accessibility issues and he will contact Neil Duggan, the Building Inspector, about this.

E)Welch Co Building

oInaccessible Entrances. Mr. Dougan said he will also speak with Mr. Duggan about this, he has spoken to him about this before.

4. New Business

A)Date of 2012 Meetings

B)Other Business.

•Ms. Rommick mentioned that the accessible swing at the Purple Dinosaur playground is not functional, the straps are missing. Ms. Breen said she will contact Ms. Vitelli of the Recreation Department. Mr. Dougan suggested that the CoD could donate funds to repair or replace the swing from its handicapped parking fines account. Ms. Breen said she will check the balance of that account.

•Beach accessibility. The cement ramp at Peggotty Beach is broken and Mr. Fiormonte reported that someone fell off it recently. Ms. Breen said that there is a beach accessible wheelchair at the Humarock Fire Station. Mr. Dougan asked Ms. Breen to invite Ms. Vitelli to the next meeting to discuss beach accessibility. Mr. Dougan said the existing building standards for beach accessibility are not enforceable. Because the beach is not fully developed the Town is not held to regulations regarding beach accessibility. He said that the CoD could ask the Recreation Department to make at least one beach in Town accessible, at the moment none are accessible. Ms. Breen said the boat ramp area at Minot Beach is the easiest way

for the disabled to access the beach at the moment.

5. Adjournment . The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Martin