

Commission on Disabilities, July 21, 2011 <>

COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES MEETING

July 21, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeff Dougan, Chairperson; Paige Tobin; Megan Sommer, Anne Breen; Bob Tarantino

1.Call to Order . Chairperson Jeffrey Dougan called the meeting to order at 7:30pm at Little Red Schoolhouse on Cudworth Road.

2.Acceptance of Minutes. The May minutes were unanimously approved as written 4-0.

3.Old Business:

A.MBTA – Greenbush. AAB Complaint. The CoD's case was found in favor as representation for the MBTA did not show up at the hearing.

B.Transportation Options: The Council on Aging is getting a larger van that will carry more people and more equipment. Mr. Tarantino said that a CDL driver would be needed for a van with capacity of more than 15 passengers.

i.GATRA:Mr. Dougan heard from the Town Administrator Patricia Vinchesi regarding the application for this but there has been no movement so far. There was a discussion about this.

C.Scituate Maritime Center. The ramp and stairs have proper handrails on them although there are planters at the bottom and Mr. Dougan pointed it out to Harbormaster Mr. Patterson and he said he would move them. Mr. Dougan talked about the gangway and ramp and said that Mr. Patterson has been very interested in accessibility at the marina and he has been working closely with Mr. Dougan.

D.Lawson Tower: Followup to walkway slope concerns/site visit 7/2/11. Mr. Dougan said that the walkway area is being redesigned to reduce the slope.

E.Gazebo: Brick concerns at base of new ramp. Ms. Rommick said that the brick has been repaired.

F.Grits Mill: The Historical Commission is seeking a variance for the walkway construction as the slope to the site is too steep.

G.Inn at Scituate Harbor: Accessibility at the Dogwatch pub. Mr. Dougan said that there is an AAB issue there now since originally the inn owners said the area would not be used. There are steps to the restrooms in the pub area so that is also not accessible. Ms. Tobin said that the entrance could be changed to make it accessible but maybe not the restrooms, which were used for the pool area in the past. There was a discussion about what steps to take next. It was agreed to review correspondence about this location from years past and to discuss the situation again at the next meeting.

H.Welch Company Building: Inaccessible entrances. Mr. Dougan said that he will follow up with building inspector Neil Duggan who initially said that it appears that the entrances are not accessible and that he would contact the owners.

4.New Business:

A.Date of 2011 Meetings.The next meeting was scheduled for September and Mr. Dougan said he would send out some dates. It was agreed that Thursday is a good meeting date going forward.

B.Other business:

i.Reappointments: Ms. Tobin was reappointed to the CoD.

ii.The Independent Living Center of Brockton has filed a complaint about accessibility issues at Scituate High School. It has been received by the building inspector and by the CoD. Mr. Dougan said that at this time it is not necessary for the CoD to respond.

iii.Citizen letter from Eileen Scotti, Capt Pierce Road: asked about a boardwalk next to the Post Office in Minot. Mr. Dougan said that the other end of Minot Beach is accessible therefore the beach has met its accessibility requirements. The Town owns a beach wheelchair and the Fire Department will deliver it to whichever beach you would want it. Mr. Dougan will respond to Ms. Scotti.

iv.Mr. Dougan confirmed that the CoD was fully funded by the Town for FY 2012.

v.Mr. Dougan requested that the BoS and Planning Board liaisons be included in the email list for meeting agendas and minutes.

vi.Mr. Dougan reported that former CoD chairperson Barbara Donnelly was participating in the Plymouth CoD and she sent her regards to Scituate CoD meetings.

5.Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 8:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Martin