

## **Lancaster Commission on Disability Meeting Minutes**

July 18, 2017

Present: Michael McCue/ Chair, Rose Bissonette, Daryl Blaney, Lorry Doucet, Carolyn Stump, Marilyn Chambers

Absent: Lesley Allison

Meeting Called to Order 6:06 pm

1. Updated minutes of June meeting were reviewed and approved. Revised minutes of May meeting and June minutes are to be submitted to Mary A & town clerk
2. Carolyn Stump opted to no longer be in COD secretary role generating commission minutes. The commission nominated Lesley Allison to generate minutes of COD meetings
3. The commission discussed the status of town recreation sites such as ballparks, conservation land etc., as part of request by Noreen Piazza to determine updated status of such sites, for the purpose of updating the town's Open Space & Recreation Plan to indication needs for ADA compliance  
  
. Daryl and Carolyn to check several locations and report on their status so that chair McCue can reply to Noreen.
4. The commission discussed October Lancaster Accessibility Awareness Month (LAAM) at length to bring into focus the action items required to launch the month. Action items as follows were established:
  - Carolyn to populate items and task details spreadsheet in the format she generated for past LAAM years, and distribute to commission asap
  - Chair McCue to engage Joe Mule of TML to determine display options and other possibilities to tie into LAAM
  - Chair McCue to write and send letters to schools asap soliciting their level of interest / involvement and ideas for student related activities for LAAM
  - All COD members to solicit their church leaders to determine possibilities of involvement with LAAM
  - Rose suggested that cable media air a message or an interview on a COD member or other person knowledgeable of disability/ accessibility needs and/or experiences.

5. Rose informed the commission that the COD's of Fitchburg, Leominster and Gardner are interested in inviting the Lancaster COD to join them and participate in a regional meeting of sorts to discuss issues, successes, failures etc. that each COD has experienced, and share ideas and suggestions that might be mutually helpful for each COD. The meeting time is TBD, sometime this fall. It was agreed the concept of this was good, however Chair McCue expressed concerns on the COD's ability to actively and productively participate.
6. Regarding other misc. matters, chair McCue shared with the group LCOD recruiting messages that he created and publicized via the town enewsletter, the Daily Item and town website. One reply from the enewsletter suggested that veterans might be interested, as MGL-5N states that veterans who volunteer for an organized entity such as the LCOD can realize a \$1,000.00 tax credit.

Rose to follow up on this suggestion to determine the validity of it and any other relevant details.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Michael S. McCue,  
Chair, LCOD