

Lancaster COD Meeting Minutes 6/20/17

Meeting called to order 6:08 PM

Present: Chair Mike McCue, Marilyn Chambers, Carolyn Stump, Lorry Doucet

Absent: Rose Bissonnette, Daryl Blaney, Lesley Allison

1. REVIEW & APPROVE MINUTES FROM 5/16/17 MEETING : May meeting minutes could not be reviewed, as no copy of minutes was available to review at the meeting.
2. Town matters, commissions or committees, businesses updates
 - A. Prescott Building and any other initiatives: Nothing new to report.
 - B. Chair McCue reported that a copy of report /form was left in the COD mailbox. The report, prepared by Haynes Lienick & Smith, was published in 10/11". It's purpose was to evaluate assist/ advise the town on how to plan and update buildings and places to comply with ADA laws. While the report is already inaccurate in some respects due to its date, many of the observations are still relevant. The COD discussed the report and agreed that the COD needs to initiate along with the town planner, the process of developing and generating an ADA plan that the town should produce. The COD also agreed that the town should take advantage of the ability to obtain assistance in writing the plan, via the ability to apply for an available state grant of funds ranging from 10 to 50k, to have a consultant help write the plan.
 - C. A general discussion on Planned changes to the N. Lancaster village transpired. Marilyn Chambers reported that she attended one of the forum/ input sessions on this subject and one of the presenter/ participants indicated that all sidewalks etc. would be ADA compliant.
 - D. The COD discussed key takeaways from the ADA Training Seminar held in May that 4 COD members attended. The two day session conducted by the M.O.D., was a very educational and helpful refresher and also provided a good update on recent changes. Lorry Doucet gave chair McCue a copy of the presentation on a USB stick.
 - E. The COD then discussed the initiation of the upcoming October Lancaster Accessibility Awareness Month program (LAAM). The post mortem comments and recommendations that were made after last year's events were reviewed, as well as the pros and cons of this year's options.

To engage and encourage the schools to participate in LAAM, Chair McCue added 2 new recommendations for this year's program: Submit a letter to all schools inquiring how their

school plans to participate in LAAM and incorporate accessibility as part of their curriculum during October. The COD unanimously agreed with this approach.

Resurrecting the approach of issuing awards for pro accessible businesses was also discussed.

LAAM Action Items:

- Chair McCue to write a letter and submit to school and town official(s) by mid August.
- Chair McCue to follow up with Joe Mule regarding the ADA exhibit at TML
- Carolyn Stump to report on status of TML event/ activities as soon as they become more solidified
- Carolyn Stump, Lorry Doucet, Marilyn Chambers and other COD members not present, are to contact the Churches they attend to inquire how they may want to participate in LAAM
- Lesley Allison to contact Scouts and inquire on what level of participation they want to consider for LAAM.

F. Chair McCue shared a COD membership recruiting notice/ announcement he created for the purpose of posting in local media outlets. The COD reviewed the notice and agreed on the content and approach. Chair McCue is to submit the notice to the Daily Item, cable News and Mary Alderete monthly enewsletter and for town website posting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael S. McCue
Chair, Lancaster COD