

Lancaster Commission on Disability – Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2017
Senior Center / Lancaster Community Center

Members Present: Mike McCue, Chairman; Lesley Allison, Rose Bissonnette, Daryl Blaney, Marilyn Chambers, Lorry Doucet and Carolyn Stump.

Absent: Lesley Allison

Meeting called to order at 6:04 pm

1. REVIEW & APPROVE MINUTES FROM 12/20/2016
 - a. Minutes reviewed & approved from 12/20/16
 - i. Minutes reviewed & accepted from 12/20/16.
 - ii. There was no January 2017 meeting due to inclement weather.
2. TOWN MATTERS, COMMISSIONS OR COMMITTEES, BUSINESSES UPDATES
 - a. Town Matters
 - i. Prescott Building
 1. Access to the Town Hall Safe access is of concern, though hopefully this a temporary situation. Due to required safe specifications, the Safe specifications, the Safe must stay in the “old” Town Hall. Mike said monthly meetings on this project will be ongoing.
 - ii. Senior Center Reservations
 1. Email to be sent to Melissa at Senior Center reminding her we use Senior Center Room 3rd Tuesday of each month from 6 – 8 pm.
 - iii. Grant Requests
 1. Community Block Grant Meeting being held 2/22/17. Next year’s grant is being discussed, Alix Turner said. Mike encouraged any COD member that could attend to do so.
 - iv. Recreation Committee Member asked Mike for figures on how many people with disabilities would use the Town Beach. Mike said that he had discussed this with Noreen since if the grant request is being made per ADA, and that an average of 10% of people are considered disabled in communities (towns/cities). However, that does not indicate disabled in what way, nor if it would or would not affect their use of Beach. ADA requires accessibility even if only one wishes to use the Beach. More information is needed.
 - v. Bigelow Gardens
 1. Daryl reports that Bigelow is working on trying to get 2 units HC accessible, but is still working out the details. The State is supposed to pay. It is hoped that work will begin in the summer, though things are still in the process. No bids have gone out yet, as details are still being worked out.
 - vi. Open Space & Recreation Committee
 1. Meeting is March 8, 7 pm at the Senior Center. Any COD Member(s) that are available are encouraged to attend.
 - vii. Businesses Updates

1. Home Town Bank is being sold. However, there is still concern regarding HP parking behind the building where Lancaster Historical Commission meets currently.
 - a. Lorry will look into getting information
3. COMMISSION ACTIVITIES INPUT AND 2017 EMPHASIS
 - a. Thayer Memorial Library already excitedly planning participation in Oct 2017 Accessibility Awareness Month.
 - b. Horseshed Fair, discussion regarding seeing about inside venue or doing something else.
 - c. Who and where are those individuals in town with disabilities and how best will it be to reach them? (in addition to surveys and door-to-door we have done previously)
Suggestions include:
 - i. Programs, beach day to show improvements, Fire Dept participate in Oct, a lunch meeting for Q & A, what do you want from your Commission & how can we serve you better etc.
 - ii. Participate in survey to be sent along with Annual Town Census
 - iii. Commission has openings for 2 members that we should try fill
 - iv. Involve churches in town
 - v. Include information in COA Newsletter, post on bulletin boards etc.
4. 2016 ANNUAL REPORT INPUT
 - a. Reviewed first draft with edits as needed.
 - b. Daryl will provide photos.
5. STATUS / SCOUTS OUTREACH, WEB ACCESSIBILITY
 - a. Scouts Outreach
 - i. No new information
 - ii. Lesley will report updates at next meeting
 - b. Web Accessibility
 - i. No new information
 - ii. Lesley will report updates at next meeting
6. MISC / OTHER AS NECESSARY
 - a. MOD Training session will be held May 23 & 24, 2017 in Leominster, MA. Place & time to be announced.
 - i. COD Participation is strongly encouraged.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm