



Lancaster Commission on Disability Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2023

Present: Mike McCue, Chair; Daryl Blaney, Eugene Brazeau. Volunteers present: Pat Maguire, Jim Peters, Kathy Suits

The meeting was called to order by Mike McCue, Chair at 6:30 pm.

1. September 19, 2023 meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted.
2. Lancaster Accessibility Awareness Month (LAAM) – October 1 – 31, 2023; Invisible Disability Week – October 15-21, 2023
 - a. Daryl and Mike installed the LAAM banner on the Town Green as a visible reminder for town leadership, residents and the general public on the emphasis and priority placed on identifying problems and providing solutions for Lancaster residents with disabilities.
 - b. Daryl and Lesley have distributed materials and made presentations @ several venues (e.g., The Village Church) with an emphasis on “invisible disabilities”.
 - c. Thanks to the truly amazing team at the Thayer Memorial Library (TML), resources including books, posters, pamphlets and other printed materials are displayed and readily available at TML. In addition, a podcast focusing on Invisible Disabilities is expected to debut in October. A new development appears to be the addition of a Lavender Darcangelo podcast. She has graciously agreed to participate but the exact timing is TBD., Another podcast has also been slated with a professional colleague that Lesley introduced to LCOD. Specific timing on this podcast is also TBD.
 - d. The LAAM discussion wrapped up with grateful recognition for our library – “They do a wonderful job and are a true treasure for our community.”
 - e. Progress continues on The Town of Lancaster Emergency Preparedness Guide. Final edits have been processed and mailing logistics have been ironed out. The anticipated mail date is late October / early November 2023. It was affirmed that the Lancaster Guide is specific to the Town of Lancaster and is not intended for distribution to other communities.
3. Posthumously Honoring Rose-Marie Bissonnette
 - a. Mike has made many attempts to reach the Heather Abbott Foundation and the New England Amputee Association regarding LCOD's desire to honor Rose posthumously. During the meeting, Jim was able to locate additional contact information for both organizations. Mike will continue to pursue contact with these entities and update the Commission in November.
 - b. Geno Brazeau is working with Kelly Dolan regarding a Memorial Bench. LCOD will be on point for creating Rose's plaque.
4. Action Items / Recent Activity Status
 - a. The 2023 Action Item Tracking Tool was reviewed and edits were suggested. Pat Maguire will make the requested changes.
 - b. COD Web Page on the Town of Lancaster site: Jim has reviewed the web site development info from Christine Dynan over the last several years. He will continue to work with Mike with updates to follow @ future LOC meetings.

The meeting concluded at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Maguire