

COD minutes - 10/18/16

Called to order: 6:05pm

Present: Mike McCue, Daryl Blaney, Lorry Doucet, Rose Marie Bissonnette, Lesley Allison, Marilyn Chambers;

Absent: Carolyn Stump

1. September minutes reviewed and need amending. Will approve both minutes next meeting.
2. Town matters - Prescott - Mary Bulso sent email regarding a meeting dated in June regarding bidding for contractors. The email was redacted and an indication was made that Ryan McNutt would be sending out an email instead. Mike did not receive a follow up email from Mr. McNutt.

Nathaniel Thayer Park grant awarded \$150,000 by the state of Massachusetts.

A discussion took place about handicapped parking for voters at the town hall. Mike spoke to the MOD office and confirmed that the designated handicapped spot should be reserved for the voter. The Town of Lancaster should make accommodations for the poll workers / employees with additional spots designated for handicapped spaces.

3. Lancaster Accessibility Month - review and discussion

Mike showed the group a flyer sent out by the Town Clerk advertising the health fair and the COD event at the Horse Shed Fair.

The Town Library placed a link on their website to the history of disability panels PDF and advertised Lancaster Accessibility Month. No advertisement was found about the therapy horse event.

Review of Horseshed Fair- Rose comments that APAWS is a distraction from the table. The focus ends up on the dogs and not on the table. Suggestions were made that the dogs be there for a shorter period of time for a show of their talents but not for the entire time that the table is open. We had a small sign but need something bigger for next year. Perhaps we could display the flag we had discussed in the previous meeting and / or a banner. We will consider using next year's funds to get a smaller banner made.

Health Fair -The space provided for our table was better this year. COD was paired with Shine and it was a good match. Visitors drawn to Shine were then visiting COD table. Brendan Aylward of Unified Health and Performance came to the table to meet the group and introduce himself. COD reports a positive impression of the Fair this time. It was a good networking opportunity.

Rose and Lorry to visit Brendan Aylward of Unified Health and Performance and check out his business for appropriate marketing to those with disabilities. They will let Mike know what they think and he will follow up accordingly.

Scout stuff- Lesley, Rose and Mike attending the next Boy Scout meeting. Rose to speak with the boys about her experiences as an amputee and then they will break into groups and go over the Community Access sheet. A discussion took place regarding the revision of Lancaster town business list. Lesley will make a revised list of businesses that have yet to be addressed for community access. Lesley will issue a suggested list to the boys.

4. Miscellaneous

Reminder - The "Complete Streets" Walk will be taking place on October 26th at 6pm. It will start at the Community Center and Noreen Piazza will be running the event.

There is a trail meeting this Saturday 10/23/16 in Holyoke. Includes an Accessible Trail walk among other hikes. COD will reimburse for cost of travel for those who would like to attend.

Mike away for next meeting and requests for Rose to run the meeting. The meeting is scheduled for November 15.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Lesley Allison