

Commission on Disability - August Meeting Minutes

August 21, 2018

Present: Rose Bissonette, Daryl Blaney, Marilyn Chambers, Lorry Doucet, Carolyn Chambers, Lesley Allison

Absent: Chair McCue

Meeting called to order: 6:06pm.

1. Review of July Meeting Minutes. Minutes were accepted with one minor change.
2. Lancaster Accessibility Awareness Month (LAAM):
 - Carolyn scheduled to meet with the pastor at the College Church to finalize the details of the event scheduled for Saturday, October 20th at 11am.
 - Lesley discussed LAAM with Brendan Aylward of Unified Health and Performance. He may be willing to host an open gym with some of his adaptive athletes present. The COD voted to proceed with further planning of this idea. Lesley will continue to work with Brendan on this idea.
 - Lesley to meet with Nashoba High School administrators to discuss Unified program tomorrow. The "Unified" term comes from the Special Olympic and refers to a group of adaptive / special needs athletes and standard athletes performing together as a team in a sporting event. She will research further information may be used for a publication in a local paper. The story might include information about Brendan's event. Rose to contact Lesley via email with Sentinel and Item phone contacts.
 - No one in the COD has any idea if there is a Health Fair scheduled in the Senior Center this year.
 - Library Program: Mike met with Joe and Karen at the library. Unfortunately, they were not able to find any actors that could do a performance of FDR or Stephen Hawking. Mike's daughter is in college and may be able to look into a drama club performance. A movie idea was brought forward by the group. One movie to consider would be the movie about the life of Stephen Hawking considering he just passed away this year. There will still be exhibits. No other programming ideas were generated this meeting.
 - Need info from Mike about any Middle School responses.
3. Town matters:
 - Lesley researched some signs for the blind corner on Brockelman Road and shared with the group. Will discuss again when Mike returns as he has the contacts.
 - The first official ADA Transition Plan for the Town of Lancaster is being initiated. Noreen is planning to complete assessments and inventories of all the Town's buildings, "right-of-ways", open and recreational spaces. She invited the COD to attend the first meeting which will be scheduled the week of August 27th. The purpose of this meeting

will be to establish an inventory of sidewalks, curbs, ramps, facility entrances, and parking areas, etc.

- Lesley shared some photos of signs that may be used at the blind curve on Brockelman Rd to promote improved safety for a local resident with a disability. The Lancaster police department and DPW would likely have to be involved with the placement of the signs. The COD will continue this discussion at a future meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Lesley Allison.