



COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

Wilbraham, Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes of Thursday, January 5, 2017
Wilbraham Town Hall
240 Springfield Street

Members in Attendance: Steve Fratoni, Marylou Fabbo, Diane DaSilva, Jean Courtney, Barbara Harrington, Beverly Litchfield, Earl Way

Members Absent: Ed White, Maggie Wurm

Staff Present: Lance Trevallion

Guest: Kate Barlow, Wilbraham Resident

Chairperson Steve Fratoni called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Beverly Litchfield made a motion to accept the minutes of Thursday, January 5, 2017. Ed White seconded the motion. All in favor.

Status of Commission financial account: Lance Trevallion reported that the balance of the Commission's account remains at \$913.46.

Discussion of "Quorum" Definition: Mr. Fratoni researched the statutory definition of quorum as compared with Wilbraham's by-laws pertaining to quorums. Request for a change would need to be presented at Town Meeting. Tabled.

Reports:

- FY 2016, Spec Pond Fishing Dock; cost estimates for enhancements as CPA Grant Request: Ms. Litchfield moved that the COD approve Mr. Fratoni to write a grant request for \$4,500 to include cost to complete rails, toe stop, dock expansions and for miscellaneous, related expenses. Diane DaSilva seconded the motion. All in favor.
- FY 2017, Children's Museum, status report: Lance Trevallion reported that the town is continuing to weigh options to address the plumbing/septic issues. Further work on the Commission's CPA grant is on hold pending outcome.
- Proposals for CPA funds grant requests: Melissa Graves, Administrative Assistant for Conservation, seeking ½ mile accessible trail near Community Gardens and would like to have COD's support. COD inquired about means of protecting the aisle between access spaces, braille/interpretive signs, and how

those with vision impairments would be able to safely use the path. Ms. Litchfield moved that the COD authorize Mr. Fratoni to sign documentation reflecting COD's support for project contingent on satisfactory answers to three issues raised. Ms. Harrington seconded. All in favor.

- "Helpful Telephone Numbers Card": Mr. Fratoni will contact the state about having the ADA Coordinator added to the card.
- Discussion of Distribution of COD Literature: Tabled.
- Discussion of Annual Report: Secretary Marylou Fabbo to draft COD summary to be included in 2016 Annual Report.

Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours Before Meeting:

- Discussion of Commission Membership Opening: Beverly Litchfield stated that she would follow up regarding Maggie Wurm's intent not to continue on the Board.
- COD members commented on quality of COD display window and that people have been looking at it.
- Old Meeting House: Mr. Fratoni spoke to the Athenaeum Society about making the building accessible (back door, through back door, bathroom). Cost to obtain design study for project from Architect Kevin Shea estimated at \$3,800. Mr. Fratoni moved that the COD approve him to write a grant request for Mr. Shea's fees. Ms. Litchfield seconded the motion. All in favor.
- Current email addresses/contact for COD members discussed.
- Mr. Fratoni gave an overview of recent legal actions involving public accommodations, including airline restrooms; wheelpad.com, which manufactures temporary accessible housing; electric vehicle noise requirements to be fully in effect by 2019; status of repeal of minimum wage exemption for disabled employees.

Next Public Meetings:

Thursday, February 16, 2017, 4:30 p.m. at Wilbraham Town Hall

Thursday, March 16, 2017, 4:30 p.m. at Wilbraham Town Hall

Thursday April 20, 2017, 4:30 p.m. at Wilbraham Town Hall

Additional to be determined.

Adjournment

Ms. Fabbo made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 p.m. Jean Courtney seconded the motion. All in favor.

Minutes submitted by Secretary Marylou Fabbo.