



# COMMISSION OF DISABILITY Wilbraham, Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes of Thursday, March 31, 2016  
Wilbraham Town Hall  
240 Springfield Street

Members in Attendance: Jean Courtney, Mary Lou Fabbo, Steve Fratoni,  
Barbara Harrington, Beverly Litchfield

Members Absent: Earl Way, Edward White, and Maggie Wurm

Staff Present: Lance Trevalion

Chairman Steve Fratoni called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

## Approval of Minutes

- Beverly Litchfield made a motion to accept the minutes of Thursday February 25, 2016 as written. Jean Courtney seconded the motion. All in favor.

## Old Business

Report on status of FY 2016 Construction Bids for Spec Pond fishing dock.

- Lance met with Rob Levesque, Architect/Engineer working to simplify and modify specifications landscaping of project.
- Local contractors will be asked to submit bids for landscaping portion for project. The prefabricated dock sections will be purchased separately.

## Report on financial balance on Commission's account

- Balance-\$1064.36

Mary Lou inquired if the Commission can receive donations. Beverly suggested to speak to Nancy Johnson Town Accountant for information regarding a gift fund.

## Report on Regional COD meeting in Worcester

Chairman Steve Fratoni attended meeting. Topics discussed:

- Parking Violations: Some COD's receive them and others get a line budget from their Town.
- State of Mass will have major changes regarding Handicap Placards.
- Complaints litigation regarding brick sidewalks are common. They cause unacceptable discomfort to those in wheelchairs and the assertion that they are "historic:" is incorrect.
- Some COD's use the State's annual "White Cane Day" to publicize disability issues. It is usually in October.

## Report on meeting with Minnechaug High School

Chairman Steve Fratoni attended meeting.

- Discussion of new Challenge Course run by school.

- Steve had discussion with Ed Cendella in regards to a fitness course for school and public use. Steve forwarded ADA Regulations Outdoor recreation facilities for advice in a future fitness trail.

#### Discussion of Town's Transition Plan

- Lance and Steve met with Town Administrator Nick Breault/ Nick will be meeting with other local towns regarding Transition Plans and the funding of new Plan for Wilbraham which is estimated at \$30,000.

#### New Business:

#### Web Site content

Steve Fratoni would like to see a Notice & Grievance Procedure placed on town's website. Mary Lou questioned if this procedure needs certain guidelines. Steve will look for a model of a Notice & Grievance Procedure-Town Council will need to be notified of any changes or requests.

#### Discussion of possible future grant projects and sources

- Entrance accessibility to the Meeting House located on Main Street.

#### Topics brought to the meeting

- Earl Way in an e-mail has concerned with aisle space at the new Convenience Store located on Main Street. Lance will talk to the owners. Comments were made that many retail outlets in Town ignore these requirements and this would be a good target for a COD publicity project.
- Mary Lou would like to present a program ADA 101 from Employer Perspective, to Wilbraham Business owners. Suggestion made to present to Wilbraham Rotary, Barbara will speak to Paula Dubord Rotary Board Member to arrange meeting.

#### Next Meeting

- Thursday April 21<sup>st</sup> 2016, 4:30 p.m. at Wilbraham Town Hall
- May to be determined

#### Adjournment

- Beverly Litchfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m. with Mary Lou Fabbo second. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted

Barbara Harrington, Secretary