



MILFORD COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

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Minutes from the Meeting of April 17, 2013

On Wednesday, April 17, 2013, a meeting of the Milford Commission on Disability (MCOD) was held at Milford Town Hall. Meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by M. Nicholson, Chairperson.

Members Present: Mike Nicholson, Demetra Edwards, Harold Rhodes, Tom Andruskevich.

Members Unable to Attend: Charles Hince, Dino DeBartolomeis, Fran O'Neill, Theresa Calcagni.

Guests of the Commission: Margaret Myatt

Minutes: Due to lack of quorum, minutes from the meeting on March 20, 2013, were not reviewed.

Treasurer's Report: Due to the lack of a quorum, the Treasurer's report was not reviewed.

Correspondence:

- MCOD received two letters from the Massachusetts Office on Disability: 1) An invitation to attend a regional meeting for members of local Commissions on Disability in Foxborough on May 15, 2013, and 2) Community Access Monitor Training to be held in Framingham on May 20 and 21, 2013.
- A letter from a Milford Boy Scout, reporting that his Eagle Scout project to build a gazebo at Louisa Lake had been approved by the BSA Council; M. Nicholson and H. Rhodes met with the Boy Scout and others to discuss the site plan to be submitted to the Planning Board; a suggestion was made to replace the crushed stone for the walkway with hot top once the parking lot at Louisa Lake is expanded.

Discussion with Margaret Myatt

- M. Myatt spoke to MCOD members about the need for assistive listening devices for Milford residents who have hearing disabilities, to enable them to fully participate in town activities, such as Town Meeting; these devices might include an induction loop system or a Communication Access Real-time Translation (CART) system.
- M. Nicholson suggested that MCOD pursue the matter with the Board of Selectmen, and perhaps have a committee appointed to study the matter.

ISA Symbol

The effort spearheaded by MCOD to add a requirement to paint the International Symbol of Accessibility on the pavement in a handicapped parking spot continues; a subcommittee of the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board has included it in its list of recommendations.

Review of Current Projects:

(a) Accessibility-Businesses:

- 1) M. Nicholson sent a message to Inspections Department head, J. Erickson, regarding three local businesses that were missing appropriate accessible parking signage.
- 2) Discussion of the lack of accessible public transportation in the Town of Milford; this issue will be followed up by MCOD this summer.

Continued

(b) Site and Building Plan Reviews:

- 1) Cornerstone Assisted Living: M. Nicholson reported that questions sent to the building architect about the accessibility of the rooms and the equipment for use by individuals with disabilities have all been answered satisfactorily.
- 2) M. Nicholson reviewed plans for the following:
 - #213: 150 E. Main St
 - #214: 105 E. Main St
 - #215: 85 S. Bow St
 - #216: 284 West St

(c) Town Accessibility:

- 1) Louisa Lake: Access to the lake for fishing by individuals with disabilities; a meeting of appropriate parties to discuss building the platform was held on April 20; M. Nicholson reported that a 20 ft platform will be built with a lip and railing; estimated cost is ~\$11K, with the cost to be funded through private donations.
- 2) Upper Charles Trail: M. Nicholson reported that the engineering firm of Guerriere and Halnon has offered to draw up the plans for an accessible family rest area on the trail near CVS; the owners have agreed to allow access to the whole property (approximately 5,000 sq ft). M. Nicholson said that the accessible benches have been reviewed favorably by Mike Bresciani, Parks Commissioner, and the Friends of MUCT; MCOD plans to initially purchase two benches.
- 3) Youth Center: M. Nicholson shared a report about repairs needed to the Youth Center which will require that the building be brought into compliance with the ADA.
- 4) Town By-laws: The Finance Committee has approved an amendment in the next Town Meeting Warrant to change the Town By-laws on Handicapped Accessibility to comply with 521 CMR.

(d) Disability Awareness:

MCOD Web Site: T. Andruskevich has reviewed the web site and submitted changes to the Town Webmaster.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 15, 2013, 7:00 p.m., Room 14, Milford Town Hall.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Andruskevich
Secretary