



## MILFORD COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

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### Minutes from the Meeting of December 18, 2012

On Tuesday, December 18, 2012, a meeting of the Milford Commission on Disability (MCOD) was held at Milford Town Hall. Meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM by M. Nicholson, Chairperson.

**Members Present:** Mike Nicholson, Demetra Edwards, Harold Rhodes, Fran O'Neill, and Tom Andruskevich.

**Members Unable to Attend:** Charles Hince, Dino DeBartolomeis, and Theresa Calcagni.

**Guests Attending:** Alice Knowlton.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the meeting of 10/16/12 & 11/20/12 were distributed. H. Rhodes moved that they be accepted as written. Seconded by F. O'Neill, motion was unanimously accepted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Main Acc't balance \$892.21. Revolving Acc't balance \$6,421.86. H. Rhodes moved to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by D. Edwards. Motion passed unanimously.

**Correspondence (Official):** None

**MCOD Priorities:** M. Nicholson asked members to review suggested priorities for MCOD in 2013 as proposed by H. Rhodes; they will be discussed at the next meeting.

### **Review of Current Projects:**

(a) **Accessibility-Funding Projects:** M. Nicholson mentioned potential external sources of funding for future projects; example was a charitable 501(c)(3) structure. To be discussed further.

#### (b) **Accessibility-Businesses:**

- 1) Discussed sending a mailing with cover letter, a copy of the regulations and available tax incentives to medical facilities in Milford RE compliance with specific new ADA regulations dealing with access for mobility impaired patients.
- 2) Sunbridge/Milford Care & Rehabilitation: Per M. Nicholson, Inspections Dept. verified a need to increase HP parking and to make access aisle corrections to existing spaces.

#### (c) **Site and Building Plan Reviews:**

- 1) Cornerstone Assisted Living: M. Nicholson asked J. Erickson for a copy of the building plans; he will forward it electronically when he gets it.
- 2) Blaire House (Site 209): Discussed issue of handicapped parking depending on whether or not physical therapy or rehab care as defined in ADA would be offered.
- 3) Discussed revision of "Town of Milford Petition for Special Permit" to included compliance with AAB Regulations; M. Nicholson will investigate.

#### (d) **Town Accessibility:**

- 1) **Youth Center:** M. Nicholson reported that maintenance was completed on the lift and additional repairs will be made; the Youth Center Director will notify MCOD if the lift needs repairs in the future; installation of a sound signaling system will be investigated.
- 2) **Louisa Lake:** Access to the lake for fishing by individuals with disabilities; Board of Selectmen said at a recent meeting they want to focus first on expanding the parking lot.

Continued

(d) Town Accessibility, continued:

- 3) Upper Charles Trail: H. Rhodes and M. Nicholson met with the MUCT Committee and reviewed three possible locations for accessible benches; H. Rhodes reported that the owners of the land near CVS may grant a revocable license to allow the construction of an accessible family rest area at that location.
- 4) Parks Department Parking: T. Andruskevich will follow up in the spring.
- 5) Milford Housing Authority: HP spots at Fairfield and Birmingham Court need to be surveyed for compliance; H. Rhodes will make a site visit in the spring.
- 6) Sidewalk Obstructions: Low-flying "OPEN" flags are still an issue at several Milford businesses; T. Andruskevich will follow up. Other issues are being addressed.
- 7) Draper Park Ramp: Board of Selectmen voted to cancel the contract for the granite ramp and to instead purchase a temporary ramp; some feel this might be in conflict with ADA regulations requiring that public spaces be always accessible.
- 8) Accessible Voting Booths: One booth has been purchased for evaluation by the Milford Town Clerk and by members of the Commission on Disability.
- 9) Town By-laws: question of town access laws vs. ADA Title II; T. Andruskevich will follow-up with Town Counsel.

(e) HP Violation Signage: Remaining signs will be transferred from the Inspections Department to the Highway Department by T. Andruskevich.

(f) Disability Awareness:

- 1) Distribution of "ADA Guide for Small Business" and distribution of "Tax Incentives for Businesses-Barrier Removal;" H. Rhodes will follow up and M. Nicholson will check with T. Luchini on best way to distribute.
- 2) Milford Disability Community Awareness Day; H. Rhodes suggested planning around some other event to draw individuals with disabilities, citizens, and town/state government officials in support of disability issues; event might also include sensitivity training.
- 3) MCOD Web Site: T. Andruskevich will coordinate changes regarding a) Complaint form, b) E-mail list, c) Information links and d) Voter Assist.
- 4) Residential Elevators and Lifts: Discussed proposed Massachusetts inspection changes, imposition of fines and the impact on people with disabilities.

(g) Stenciled Handicapped Parking Logo: M. Nicholson is working with Jeff Dugan of Mass Office on Disability to see if ADA/ABA regulations can be changed.

(h) Conflict of Interest Training: M. Nicholson reminded the members they are required to complete the online training.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, January 16, 2013, 7:00 p.m., Room 14, Milford Town Hall.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM on a motion by H. Rhodes, seconded by D. Edwards.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Andruskevich  
Secretary

Ref: Project Worksheet

CC: Board of Selectmen (4 copies)  
Department of Inspections (1 copy)