

Sharon Disabilities Commission

Minutes, March 18, 2015

Present

Members: Susan Myerson, Peter Melvin, Paul Remy, Sandy Biber, Geila Aronson.

Guests: Valerie Viera

Absent

Jim Waters, Lois Diamond, Jana Katz.

The meeting was called to order at 7:14 pm.

- I. Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed, and were accepted with two corrections. It was noted that the November, 2014 minutes were still not reviewed and that their whereabouts were still being sought.
- II. Old Business
 - a. Treasurers Report

The funds were reported to be the same as the corrected February totals:
Ticket Fund: \$1,442.57
Fundraising: \$2,918.57
Total funds: \$4,360.14
 - b. T-Shirt Project

Susan purchased 60 “25th Anniversary ADA T-shirts costing \$441.60; the reimbursement request was signed by the Commission members at the meeting.

The sale price for the T-shirts was set at \$15.00 per T-shirt. Paul and Susan agreed to go to the Binah School the week following this meeting or shortly thereafter. Sandy agreed to check with the Wilber School Apartments and with businesses in the Sharon Heights shopping plaza if they would sell T-Shirts; Geila agreed to ask Crescent Ridge and Wards Berry Farm if they would sell T-shirts. There was discussion about when to reorder more shirts.

Paul noted that he had learned during correspondence with Cindy Doherty that the Town has a credit card that could be used for future purchases. Paul asked if Geila or Susan could check with Cindy regarding requirements for use of the card.

Paul’s pre-meeting “Notes” discussed an article in the Sharon Advocate referencing a group that is seeking to raise funds to modernize three parts in town. He suggested that perhaps we earmark some of the funds earned from T-shirt sales towards that accessibility project. It was agreed that in a planned meeting with Town Manager Paul Turkington, Paul and Jana would raise this possibility and ask for more informant about plans for updating/modernizing local parks.

- c. Disability Awareness Day (DAD)

Scheduling was discussed. Paul (in his “notes”) suggested waiting until April 1, in hopes that the Patriots schedule would be released by that date. This was discussed and it was agreed that Paul

should pursue. There was further discussion of scheduling (Saturday/Sunday); it was agreed to schedule for Sunday. It was agreed to schedule a DAD subcommittee at Hixson Farms, pending availability.

There was further discussion regarding the DAD; the possibility of inviting other towns was raised, as was the possibility of inviting groups such as SHARE NE/U Mass Dartmouth, Easter Seals. There was also discussion regarding a keynote speaker; inviting JJ McGrath was suggested and supported by the group.

Paul noted that he and Jana had not had the opportunity to meet with Laura regarding the quilt.

d. Active Listening Systems

Paul's "Notes" stated that he was still waiting to get information from Norma at the Sharon Senior Center to regarding an ALS. His notes further stated that he had conducted preliminary research, and that such a system might cost between \$400 and \$1,200. He suggested seeking the opinion of the Town Engineer, Peter O'Cain regarding systems to purchase. Finally, Paul had contacted Debra Lobsitz, an Information and Referral Specialist at the Mass Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. She stated to Paul that she would send him information about the system that the Commission purchased. It was agreed that this discussion would be continued once more information had been obtained.

III. New Business

a. Website

Paul created a blog for the commission. The address is www.sharoncod.wordpress.com.

It is linked to the website, www.sharoncod.org. Paul requested that we consider upgrading our website to place both the blog and the website at the same site. The commission agreed, and it was voted to approve this expenditure from our administrative funds.

The group discussed creating a facebook page – Val volunteered to help with this.

IV. Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Next Meeting: April 22, 2015

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Biber