

Sharon Disabilities Commission

Minutes, March 26, 2014

Present: Paul Remy, Linda Salon, Susan Myerson, Jeffrey Jacobson, Jim Waters, Sandy Biber, and Faye Berzon (as a guest and potential member).

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm. Minutes from both the November, 2013 meeting and from the February, 2014 meeting were reviewed and approved.

The first item of business was a visit from Jeffrey Dougan, the Assistant Director for Community Service of the Massachusetts Office on Disability. Jeff discussed the purpose of the MOD; the primary purpose is to ensure access for all. Other mandates include support for individuals with accessibility issues, providing Information and technical assistance on community based concerns, and supporting efforts to improve government adherence to state and federal laws related to accessibility.

Jeff also discussed the requirements for cities and towns regarding access. He stated that each town must have an ADA coordinator (may be a shared position), a grievance process for citizens, post notice of non-discrimination, conduct a self-evaluation of town accessibility (which should be updated yearly), and develop a plan for remediating discrimination if this exists.

Jeff reviewed the questions posed by Paul via email (answers attached to minutes). There was a lively discussion, and the group realized that we needed to review our goals as a commission regarding accessibility in Sharon. As a start, Jeff Jacobson agreed to contact Marlene Chused and ask the name of the Sharon ADA Coordinator.

There was a brief discussion of Bark in the Park; the next planning meeting is Wednesday, April 2, at Hixson Farms at 7:30 pm.

Treasurer's report:

Jeff reported that our balance is the same as last time:

- Previous Balance: \$2853.00
- Deposits (handicapped parking fines): \$ 0.00
- New Balance: \$2,853.00

The balance of the administrative account was not noted.

The treasurer's report was accepted.

Old Business:**I. Train Station**

The Commission agreed to support Paul in getting an update on the status of the accessibility work, and to remind the town that we have suggested that the platform be dedicated to the memory of Sid Rosenthal.

There was a brief discussion of the cost of The RIDE in Sharon; Sandy volunteered to do some research and pass the information back to the group.

II. Mural Project

As discussed during the previous meeting, the mural completed by the Binah students will be placed at Memorial Beach this summer. The Selectman also approved a second mural to be completed for the 250th anniversary of Sharon. This will have a theme of Disabilities and Diversity. The group agreed to invite Tova and students to a future meeting.

III. Sharon 250 Anniversary

Linda noted that one event will have off-site parking and van transport; she reminded the Anniversary planning group to include handicapped parking and accessible van transport.

New Business:**I. None.**

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved. The meeting was closed at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Sandy Biber