

Sharon Disabilities Commission

Minutes, April 23, 2014

Present: Paul Remy, Geila Aaronson, Linda Salon, Susan Myerson, Jim Waters, Sandy Biber, Faye Berzon, and Jana Katz as a guest (and potential Commission member). Jeffrey Jacobson was unable to attend, but sent a treasurer's report by email.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm. Minutes from both the March, 2014 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's report:

- Ticket Fund: \$ 642.00
- Fundraising: \$2,311.00
- Total: \$2,952.00 (\$750.00 allocated to High School Scholarship)

Jeff noted that there had been an increase of \$100.00, and wondered why a ticket charge had been reduced. The balance of the administrative account was not noted.

There was some discussion of parking fines, and of inviting Chief Bernstein to a meeting. Jana volunteered to invite Chief Bernstein to the May 28 meeting.

The treasurer's report was accepted.

Old Business:

I. Train Station

Paul reported that there are eight handicapped parking spaces and the sidewalk around the depot is nearly completed. However, he notes that construction on an accessible platform for wheelchair/scooter users to board and exit trains has not begun.

He noted that included in the information from Jeff Dugan (Mass Office on Disability) is a letter from the MBTA to the Town and Commission stating the Sharon Train Station's accessibility project will be completed by May 1, 2014. Paul suggested that given the harsh weather, it would make sense to give the MBTA until June 1st to finish the project before considering writing the Town engineer to find out if the MBTA has a new deadline. The group agreed.

Jim stated that he believes that 8 accessible parking slots is an insufficient number for the number of parking places, and agreed to research this.

Paul also noted that he had heard from Linda Morse, the Board of Selectmen's secretary, who stated that consideration for dedicating the accessible platform at the station to Sid is

on the Selectmen's April 22nd agenda. He noted that during this meeting, the Selectmen realized that this request needed to go to the MBTA. Jana agreed to research this, and to let the group know where to direct the request.

II. Mural Project

Paul let the group know that the first mural is going to be installed at Memorial Beach during the first week of June. Paul requested permission to invite Michal (co-director of Binah School) and her students to the May meeting. This was agreed upon.

III. Sharon 250 Anniversary

Paul and Linda both plan to attend the next meeting on April 29.

IV. Fundraiser

There was a brief discussion about "Bark in the Park". Paul and Sandy agreed to seek brochures on services available to individuals with disabilities. The next planning meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 1, at 7:00 pm.

V. Brochure

Paul suggested adding the town logo and some other changes. Sandy agreed to bring the revised brochure to the May meeting.

New Business:

I. Sharon Accessibility

Paul let the group know that the former Town Manager was the ADA coordinator. The new Town Manager will also have that position. He suggested that the Commission invite the ADA Coordinator to two or three Commission meetings annually in order to coordinate work on town accessibility concerns. The group agreed.

II. Paul also shared email conversations with the Town Clerk regarding Town Hall accessibility. This produced the following information:

The ramp was never considered to be part of an accessible entrance because it was too steep. The rear entrance with the lift (now not working) was the accessible entrance. DPW has a capital request before the upcoming Town Meeting to repair or replace the lift.

Paul contacted Jeff Dougan via email regarding Remote Participation; he has not yet heard back from Jeff.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved. The meeting was closed at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Sandy Biber