

**Acton Commission on Disability
Minutes
May 13, 2010**

Members Present: Lisa Franklin, Gordon Lagrow and Brenda Viola.

Guests: Daniel Factor and Kevin Goodwin

Board of Selectman Liaison: Mike Gowing

Meeting was called to order at 7:18 pm.

April minutes were reviewed and accepted with corrections. May 1st minutes approval is postponed until members present at meeting can review them.

Guest: Mike Gowing is our new Board of Selectman liaison. He gave us an overview of his role with the Commission.

OLD BUSINESS

HP Parking Violation Fines: Discussion to suggest to Parking Clerk that first occurrence of HP Parking violation is a Warning and the 2nd is a fine. Other idea is to campaign for the increase from \$25: write an article in the newspaper, postings, flyers, etc.

Acton Family Dental Care Variance for Ramp: Received Notice of Hearing from the Architectural Access Board. We have been notified that an informal adjudicatory hearing before the Architectural Access Board has been scheduled for Monday, June 7, 2010 at 10:30 A.M. at One Ashburton Place, 21st Floor, Boston, MA 02108.

Frank Ramsbottom, Building Inspector, has agreed to take pictures of the ramp. Other suggestions to add to our list of grievances are: the ramp is the only entrance, no stairway is provided as an alternative; the noncompliant cross slope poses difficulty for those who have balance difficulties; opening the door is very difficult since the landing is too small; and failure to have a building permit.

Psychiatric Needs: Lisa met with Merilee Evdomikoff, RN Laura Ducharme, LSW. They are discussing concerns and trying to identify needs. Question was raised that it may be a matter of collecting resources. Merilee and Laura can attend our meeting in September. Another suggestion made was to integrate the information gained from Merilee and Laura into "Safety Net" an already existing resource list. Further discussion is tabled until September.

Acton Nursing Service: The Nursing Service is funded until November 2010.

NEW BUSINESS

Architectural Access Board: Tom Hopkins Director of the Architectural Access Board has agreed to meet with us to discuss the Board's process. Frank Ramsbottom would like other Town departments to join this meeting.

We need to re-examine our system of handling variances. Meeting deadlines of variances has been problematic. We often receive notification of a variance in between meetings which does not allow us time to discuss and act on that variance in a timely fashion. Suggestion was made to form a subcommittee to deal with variances as they arrive in the mail. Further discussion is needed.

Meeting Minutes: Need to be post our minutes on our website. Mike has agreed to help update us with IT and Website.

Meetings: Next Meeting is June 10th. Will try to have meeting in July and August.

Oktoberfest: Theme suggested commemorating Americans with Disabilities Act 20th Anniversary. Cake is a great idea.

Other Business: To continue to promote community awareness of the Commission, it was suggested to educate the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Council by attending one of their meetings. Another suggestion was to remake our Award Certificates. Brenda to make one for approval.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Viola, Secretary