

DISABILITY COMMISSION

September 9, 2008 meeting minutes

Call meeting to order: 6:06 p.m.

Roll Call: Wendy Henderson, John Noel,
Karen Cavanaugh Terry Dickinson Wilton Hawes
Eileen LeBlanc Sharon Neupaver Lyn Johnson
Excused absences: Wesley Babkirk

Determination of Quorum: Yes

Public Forum: None

Minutes from last meeting: Minutes to August 2008 meeting were accepted as read.

Motion to accept: Wilton Hawes Seconded: Terry Dickinson

Correspondence: Four respite care applications were received.

Financial Report: A receipt for the annual cost of our P.O. box of \$58.00 was submitted this month. There were no other expenditures.

Motion to accept: Karen Cavanaugh Seconded: Lyn Johnson

Old Business: Mileage Reimbursement: At a previous meeting it was suggested that John check with town attorney Mark Sciota regarding mileage reimbursement to and from workshops, conferences and other commission business that may require travel out of town. He said each occurrence should be voted on and agreed to by the commission. He suggested that I check the IRS web site to see what the mileage reimbursement standard is this year.

Transportation: It was agreed that our focus for now regarding this issue would be the tri-town bus route.

Tri-town bus route: Lynn is in the process of putting together a packet of information for Louis Perillo III Southington's economic development coordinator that will include a DVD of the transportation forum, minutes of that meeting and a cover letter.

Respite Care: We reviewed 10 new respite care applications two of which had no receipts enclosed. Those two individuals will be contacted by John relating the need for receipts to be enclosed with their applications for them to be processed. Funds will be disbursed to the 8 other applicants. We will extend the deadline for new applications from July 15th to November 1st.

Poster Contest: The poster contest will be held in October and the judging done in November. Terry said she will be contacting the board of education for approval. Once this happens she will go out and buy the supplies at Staples

and put together the packets to be handed out to each elementary in town. This project is limited to 5th graders.

Motion to accept: Wilton Hawes Seconded: Lyn Johnson

New Business:

Camp Sloper Accessibility: John wrote a letter to Mark Pooler director of YMCA Camp Sloper. He was offered our support in his efforts to get a grant to make the walking trail around the pond accessible to people in wheel chairs. He was also asked to consider making provision for people who could not walk to be able to get into the pond to go swimming. John will follow up with a phone call to Mark Pooler.

Historical Society Building: John sent a letter to the town council members regarding putting a ramp in to make the building more accessible. There is no way for a wheel chair user to gain access. Town council member Tony D'Angelo looked into it and related that I should call town attorney Mark Sciota regarding this issue. I did and Mr. Sciota said our town engineer and Bob Cusano are working out possible solutions that would blend into the exterior of the existing building. Mr. Sciota said to call back at a later date and he may have more information.

Town Hall Parking Lot: John suggested that a letter be sent to town manager John Weichsel and the town council regarding the need to make available a wider handicap space that would accommodate a ramp van.

Workshop: On Saturday September 27th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Connecticut Expo Center in Hartford there will be a disability convention and exposition. There will be vendors for adaptive equipment and technology. There will be advocates from local social service organizations to answer your questions and provide information.

Employment With Disabilities Month: October 2008 is so designated.

Meeting Date Change: Our November meeting will be changed from 11-11-08 to 11-18-08. John will notify the town clerk of this change.

Motion to accept: Lyn Johnson Seconded: Terry Dickinson

Next Meeting: Tuesday October 14th, 2008 at the Southington Water Department at 6:00 p.m.

Motion made to adjourn: Wilton Hawes Seconded: Terry Dickinson

Meeting adjourned: 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: John Noel Secretary/Treasurer