

Town of Southington Commission on DisAbilities

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> April 10, 2007 meeting minutes

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> Call meeting to order: 6:05 p.m.

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> Roll Call: Wendy Henderson, John Noel, Wesley Babkirk

> Terry Dickinson, Lyn Johnson

> Excused Absence: Karen Cavanaugh

> Unexcused Absences: George Sanchez, Charles Bosworth, Sharon

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> Determination of Quorum: Yes

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> Public Forum: None

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> Minutes from last meeting: No meeting was held in March due to lack of a quorum. Minutes from February meeting were accepted as read.

> Motion to accept: Terry Dickinson Seconded: Lyn Johnson

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> Correspondence: We received a letter requesting a respite care application. We also received two completed applications for respite care.

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> Financial Report: No expenditures were incurred since our last meeting in February. Our new budget for 07/08 has yet to be approved by the town council.

> Motion to accept: Lyn Johnson Seconded: Terry Dickinson

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> Old Business:

> Playground: John spoke with Jiggy at the Parks and Rec Dept. who said he may have someone to make the enhancements to the Rainbow Playground. John will meet with Jiggy before next meeting to discuss where we stand regarding the proposed enhancements.

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> Respite Care: Two new applications were received this month. We are accepting applications now with a June 1st deadline. Brooke Petito, as part of a college project, finished working on the grant she wrote to the Main Street Foundation requesting \$5000 in respite care funds. It was submitted and we are waiting to hear from the Main Street Foundation. They may come to our June meeting.

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> Transportation: We will have a public forum during our June meeting on transportation. The event will be publicized in the local newspapers and on radio. A stenographer will be hired to take notes of the meeting. Terry will look into the hiring of a stenographer. We are hopeful that a number of people will attend. We are looking into getting a speaker who can give us some information and answer questions. Respite care applications will also be available.

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> Poster Contest: Poster materials will be handed out this week to the various elementary schools in town. We hope to review the finished posters during our May meeting.

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> Higher Chairs In Medical Facilities: John is in the process of revamping our hip chair package that will be sent to various offices in the area in the hopes that hip chairs will be added to their waiting rooms.

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> Library Electric Doors: Lyn drafted a letter that will be sent to the library board with our accessibility concerns.

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> Disability Commission Web Site: No new information available.

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> Attendance: Wendy will send letters to George Sanchez and Charles Bosworth relating the town council will be sent letters requesting their resignation as they were unable to meet the minimum attendance requirements. They will then be asked to serve as advisors.

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> Safety Registration: No new information available on our safety registration form.

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> Motion to accept: Lyn Johnson Seconded: Terry Dickinson

> New Business:

> Town Hall Safety Concerns: Wesley related how he contacted the highway dept to fill in a crack in the asphalt in front of the curb cut to town hall ramp that was a safety hazard. They said they would take care of it.

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> Restaurant and business accessibility: John related that he contacted the various local newspapers and requested that they include in their articles on restaurants and other businesses whether they were accessible or not. This would be helpful to people with accessibility concerns and would send a message that these concerns are important.

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> Disability Etiquette: Wendy brought in a pamphlet on disability etiquette put together by the Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association.. John will call about acquiring more pamphlets.

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> Next Meeting: Tuesday May 8th, 2007 at the Southington Water Department at 6:00 p.m.

> Motion made to adjourn: Lyn Johnson Seconded: Terry Dickinson

> Meeting adjourned: 7:55 p.m.

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> Respectfully submitted by: John Noel, Secretary/Treasurer