



Commission for Citizens with Disabilities

May 27, 2014 – 6:40 PM - **Minutes**

City Hall – Ashley Room

Members Present

Kim Bettencourt
Martha Bouchard
Dennis De Marinis
Marsha Fernandes
Gloria Hill
Brooke Miller
John Tyson

Members Absent

Members Excused

Rev. Pam Cole

Others in Attendance:

BG Shanklin, Architect
Paige McIntyre, Family Service Assn.
Debra Lee, COA Director
Cynthia Wallquist, Exec. Director

The meeting of the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities was called to order @ 6:40 PM by Kim Bettencourt, Chair

Approval of Minutes

Dennis DeMarinis moved to accept the April 7, 2014 minutes; John Tyson seconded. Motion carried.

Guest Presentation

Paige McIntyre, Case Manager from Family Service Assn. spoke about her agency's Adult Family Care Program and eligibility requirements. Coastline processes the approvals for those who meet the Mass Health standard. Monthly visits are made by the case manager and nurse; the cost is \$15 per day for room and board. Area covered runs from Wareham to New Bedford.

Architect's Report

BG Shanklin reported:

- There has been no response re: his suggestion to the Dean @ Roger Williams about doing a conference on New Bedford's old buildings and determining which are worth saving
- There will be a follow-up meeting with Union Baptist Church

- North Baptist Church has egress, fire and elevator issues
- The Far North End fire station has no designated handicapped parking and no permanent ramp to the side used to vote.

Martha Bouchard moved to accept Mr. Shanklin's report; Brooke Miller seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Shanklin was asked by the Commission to check out parking at Parker and Ashley Schools.

New Business

- All current officers will run for re-election at the June Annual Meeting
- The Commission members expressed concern about the new trash barrels and how persons with disabilities (and the elderly) can manage them. They asked that staff from the program be invited to the June meeting.
- FY14 Programs were reviewed; the Commission will vote on its priorities at the June meeting.

Chairperson's Report

Kim Bettencourt will check with Al Oliveira about the School Department's application for funds to fix the ADA and other issues in the schools. She also reported that she did a training on April 25th at Coastline for foster grandparents and is working with parents of special needs elementary school students about accessibility.

Old Business

- Three Commission members were reappointed by the Mayor and Council: Kim Bettencourt; Pam Cole and John Tyson.

Executive Director's Report

Cynthia Wallquist reported that:

- 5 accessible cots (for emergency shelter) with a wheeled storage rack were delivered
- 9 homes served under the snow removal program will receive assistance from the Clear Path crew for yard work and minor repairs
- The special needs integrated exercise program (Fridays) that began in April at Buttonwood averages 20+
- There was nothing new re: the power wheelchair lights ordinance.

Martha Bouchard moved to accept the Executive Director's report; Brooke Miller seconded. Motion carried.

Announcements

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by Gloria Hill and seconded by Martha Bouchard. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Brooke Miller
Secretary