

Somerville Commission for Persons with Disabilities
September 20, 2010
The Hagan Manor
268 Washington Street
Somerville, MA 02143

Committee Members: Carlene Campbell, Kellyann Binari, Terry Baino, William Viennue, Ellen Frith arrived at: 6:40 pm

General Public: Claudia Murrow, Marylou Thompson

Chairperson Kellyann Binari opened the meeting at exactly 6:00 pm. The Committee began to review the items on the agenda:

Agenda Item #1: Approval to accept \$2,000.00 CDBG Grant Money

- Ms. Campbell gave a brief history of the CDBG Grant Money
- A motion for a vote was made and seconded.
- The Committee voted unanimously to accept the \$2,000.00 CDBG Grant

Agenda Item #2: Approval to move forward on implementing the Emergency Preparedness presentation

- Ms. Campbell gave a brief history of the Emergency Preparedness presentation
- A motion for a vote was made and seconded.
- The Committee voted unanimously to move forward to implant the Emergency Preparedness presentation

Agenda Item #3: Voting to move Commission meetings from Monday's to the second Tuesday of the month

- Chairperson Binari gave an overview of why this request was made by Committee Member William Viennue
- A motion for a vote was made and seconded.
- The Committee voted unanimously to approve moving the Commission meetings to the second Tuesday of the month
- Chairperson Binari offered a motion to allow the Bi-Laws to be updated to reflect the previous vote of changing the date of the Commission
- The motion was seconded and the Committee voted unanimously to update the Bi-Laws regarding changing of the Commission meeting date

Agenda Item #4: Discuss and schedule the upcoming elections of officers

- The Committee discussed the election of officers which had been delayed due to quorum issues.
- A motion was made and seconded to hold the elections at the next meeting on Tuesday, October 12, 2010
- The Committee voted unanimously to hold elections at the next meeting

Any and all other pertinent issues:

1. The Committee asked Ms. Campbell to speak with the Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD) to see if there is an update from the DIF meeting regarding the Green Line Extension project and where the station would be placed in/near Union Square
2. Chairperson Binari introduced MaryLou Thompson as a new potential member. Ms. Thompson told us the Committee about herself. She has lived in Somerville for 40+ years and has two children, one is profoundly deaf and one who is completely deaf. One of her children just graduated college and is now teaching at the Framingham Learning Center for the deaf. She has been on the PTA at the Lincoln Park School, Secretary of the State PTA and currently works in the Administrative Office at the Little Sisters of the Poor. She is very excited to be a part of a group who works on issues "near and dear to her heart".
3. Ms. Frith brought up the issue of ticketing people who park in handicap spaces/bus stops-stated that different City entities respond quicker than others. Ms. Frith suggested that the Committee join her in taking photos of people and the vehicles parked in handicap spots. Ms. Frith took out her camera to explain how she can date stamp the newest group of photos she had collected. She also suggested that the Commission create a Public Service Announcement re: rules/regulations of parking in handicap/bus stops and at the next meeting she wanted to show the Committee how Santa Fee handles handicap parking abuse.
4. Ms. Binari brought up the question for letterhead for the Committee-can the City create a letterhead for the Commission? There is a new handicap symbol being e-mailed around. Ms. Campbell was asked to report back on this item at the next meeting.

5. Ms. Frith mentioned that the Mass COD has an e-mail group that she feels other Commissioners should sign up on.

6. Open Meeting Laws-Ms. Campbell reviewed the current open meeting laws created in July. Ms. Campbell was asked to resend the e-mail sent out in July.

7. Ms. Campbell was asked to update the Disabilities Commission Member list and send it to all members for review.

8. Ms. Campbell was asked to look into the feasibility/requirements for disabled individuals to get emergency cell phones.

Ms. Binari asked if there were any additional items to be discussed. Hearing none a motion was made and seconded to end the meeting.

Meeting closed at 7:11 pm