

Provincetown Disability Commission  
Minutes of the Meeting  
April 14, 2015  
Meeting at Seashore Point – 2<sup>nd</sup> fl

Meeting Started at: 11AM

Members Present: Vernon Porter, Nancy Swanson, Herb Hintze, Michelle Foley,  
Gloria McPherson & Linda Loren

Members Absent: Michelle DeMarco - excused

Guests: Heather Rogers, Anne Howard

**Welcome and Open Comments:** Welcome to Heather Rogers who is representing Accessible Provincetown.

**Public Statements:** NONE

**New Business:**

Accessible Provincetown – Invited Heather Rogers to discuss the focus of Accessible Provincetown and its relationship to the Disability Commission.

It is a non-profit 501C3 since February 2015. Their purpose is to raise funds in support of the Disability Commission and to fix or replace items that will assist the disability community in Provincetown. Heather recently completed a review of town bathrooms with Eric Larsen, DPW Deputy Director, and found issues at the COA and one of the Town Hall Bathrooms. Town Hall bathroom has a narrow doorway which cannot be altered. COA toilets were originally meant for grammar school children and have now been replaced with appropriate ones. Toilets at MacMillan Pier have all been refurbished and handicapped accessible.

They will also assist with payment for the 2015 Disability brochure from the Commission. Heather also stated that they will assist with any personal or business needs for projects for disability needs. Disability Commission will notify them of any new projects that will need support. Commission will need to plan a system for individuals and businesses to submit requests for assistance.

Anne Howard – Building Inspector. Presented Survey checklist and asked if she would be able to use this during her inspections. She stated that she has been taking some disability requirements into account when doing inspection. Frequent issue has been

accessible doorways for business but the aisles are too narrow for wheelchairs. Yardam Liquors and St. Mary's have new ramps.

She explained that the value of the construction and the work area will trigger the amount of accessible accommodation that is necessary. For example: The Art House Cinema has recently done extensive construction inside and will now need to have an accessible counter to for patrons in wheelchairs.

Anne likes the idea of a checklist and will use it but it needs some modifications. Will redo checklist and send to Gloria to be formatted.

Swany asked about inspections at Maushop but there are only State Inspections.

Swany asked about issues at Seashore Point but Anne stated that they are privately owned condos and only Fire inspections are done.

### **Ongoing Issues:**

Town Survey – Michelle DeMarco is tabulating the results and will present to the Commission.

Finances – Gloria presented Town tally of finances for the Commission. Money left in yearly budget, which must be spent before June 30, 2015 is \$4,603.60. One time funding from the town has \$16,396.00 and the Gift Fund has \$20,779.50.

Mobi Mats – previously approved purchase of new Mobi Mats that are of a better quality and will survive use on the beach. Vern stated that he will be able to get a 10% discount for a cost of roughly \$18,726.86 for 10 mats. As previously voted – we will use the entire remaining budget and funds from the one time town funding. This will leave \$2,272.74 in this account. Vern will work to get mats ordered for arrival before Memorial Day.

Contribution Boxes – Michelle will assume responsibility for these boxes. Herb suggested that we find all the boxes and redo them. Leave boxes at the Banks, Health food Store and Adams. We can decide where to put the other boxes. There is also an issue at this time about availability of keys which will need to be addressed.

Office Space – Herb suggested that we have our own building and this is supported by Accessible Provincetown. Space available on Ryder Street – Need plan and the money and then present our plan to the town.

Storage Shed – Lock doesn't always work due to weather conditions and so there is a padlock. No mats are in the shed – they are at the DPW.

The Downey information booth may be available for purchase. Will discuss this in the future.

Accessible Trolley is still in process.

Disability Days – May 15 & 16, 2015. Herb spoke with selectmen about proclamation which will be for May 16 and all selectmen will be invited.

Herb suggested that we have only the Saturday from 10A – 4PM due to staffing issues.

Discussion about this suggestion and a vote was taken 6-0 to keep only Saturday.

Herb will check about Firehouse and change dates.

Need: Pens, Water jug for donations, Banner, Posters, Flyers, Pamphlets, Mobi Chair, and pictures of the Mobi Mats.

Vernon will speak with Ray D. at DPW about the new mats. Old mats will be redistributed to other areas.

Issue re: Braille signage in Town Hall elevator postponed to May 12 meeting. Need to do Town Hall site visit and Anne Howard will be invited to join.

Swany spoke about the current sidewalk bricks that need to be fixed. Discussion about the issues that these brick present. A motion was made by Vernon and Seconded by Herb that we present to the Board of selectman a proposal for no future use of bricks for sidewalks. Vote 6-0 to approve proposal.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of March 10, 2015 approved 6 – 0 with no changes. Motion for approval made by Michelle F. and seconded by Vernon

**Next Meeting Scheduled for:** May 12, 2015 @ 11AM

Meeting Adjourned at: 12:19PM – Swany motioned adjournment and Linda seconded Vote 6-0 to adjourn.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by.  
Linda Loren