

Provincetown Disability Commission
Minutes of the Meeting
August 11, 2015
Meeting in the Caucus Hall at Town Hall

Meeting Started at: 11:10AM

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

Members Absent: Michelle DeMarco - excused

Guests: Rowan Wielbland - Observer

Public Statements: None

Member Opening Statements:

Swany – complained about bike issues, especially bikes on poles. Poles near Dune Tours have signs on the poles about no bikes and she questions why we don't have them on all poles.

Linda – agreed with issues about the bikes on poles. They aren't allowed on trees but the Warrant presented before the town to ban bikes on poles was voted down at Town Meeting.

Michelle F. – back from vacation

Herbie – workers took apart the mechanical ramp at the pier. Herbie questioned the removal. Linda remembered previous discussion with Rex McKinsey about the removal and the Commission had agreed to have it removed. Linda will look for minutes where this was discussed.

New Business:

Linda – attended Disability conference and will give review at the next meeting.

Herbie met with new Town Manager. Meeting was very favorable and Manager will insure that the Commission stays in the loop regarding changes that affect the Commission and those with disabilities. Most recent issues have been about handicap parking spaces that were modified or moved without discussion with the DC.

Michelle F. – stated that we have rules about bikes, etc. but she questioned the lack of enforcement.

Vernon – met with Heather Rogers from Accessible Ptown about what they can do to help the DC to establish an office. Vernon looked at the Pier shacks and want to put in an application. They come with all amenities and it would be ideal if we could obtain the one closest to the parking lot. Accessible Ptown is willing to fund this idea. Vernon pointed out that there are double shacks which would be ideal for adding a storage area. Herbie stated that there are Artists with disabilities who could volunteer to work in the office with the ability to sell their art work in exchange.

Vernon motioned and Swany seconded to apply for the Pier shack.

Vote 6 – 0 in favor.

Herbie brought up the issue about no website access to the DC. He stated that that Candy at the Chamber would assist us in providing information on the Chamber website. Would advertise what we do and contact information.

Vernon motioned and Michelle F. seconded to allow this information on the Chamber website. Vote 6 -0 in favor.

Herb - again spoke about positive meeting with the Town Manager. Herbie will invite him to our October 2015 meeting.

ADA Training in Truro on September 24. All encouraged to attend. Truro received a \$1000.00 grant from the state for this conference. Vernon suggested that we look in obtaining grants.

Ongoing Issues:

Flyer regarding State Disability Summit distributed to all. Summit is on September 18, 2015 in Boston.

Collection Boxes – Hebie has attempted to locate all the boxes and keys. Has purchased new boxes to replace those that are broker.

Other Business:

5 Year Plan needs to be developed. Need to review old plan. Can look at other towns for additional ideas.

Bikes – need to address issues as they impact on already too narrow sidewalks.

Board of Health – Need to approach them regarding No smoking on the benches at Town Hall and wherever individuals congregate such as lines for venues.

Handicap parking space on Standish street was moved to the other side of the street to accommodate the new trolley. There was no discussion with the DC commission and we have issues with safety and the trucks that park in this space on almost a daily basis.

A Handicap parking issue at the Monument parking lot has come to the DC's attention. Apparently an attendant in the lot allowed someone with no Handicap placard/plate to park in a handicap space. Supposedly this individual thought that the lot was private property and did not need to adhere to State Regulations. All parking areas private or public must adhere to the same rules. This confusion points out the need for education of employees.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of June 9, 2015 approved. 6-0 with changes.
Motion made by Vernon and seconded by Swany.

Next Meeting Scheduled for: September 15, 2015 @ 11AM

Meeting Adjourned at: 12:15PM – Motion by Michelle F. seconded by Herbie

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by.
Linda Loren