

Provincetown Disability Commission  
Minutes of the Meeting  
December 8, 2015  
Meeting in the Caucus Hall at Town Hall

Meeting Started at: 11AM

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

Members Absent: Gloria McPherson

Guests: Dorothy Fell – Resident – Seashore Point

**Public Statements:**

Dorothy Fell – Resident at Seashore Point. Bringing to this committee her concerns about the front entrances at Seashore Point. She states that there are two entrances in the front where the parking areas are located. The entrance to the new building near the circle is handicapped accessible and easy to use. Her concern is the entrance near the rehabilitation building which she feels is difficult to manage. The ramp is very long and the curb in front of this part of the building is very high. She recounted an incident in which a woman was dropped off but had great difficulty due to the height of the curb and was unable to get onto the sidewalk. She is requesting our assistance in getting a lower curb and a more accessible entrance.

We thanked her for her concern and bringing it to the committee. Members will make a site review and get back to Ms. Fell.

**Opening Statements:**

Vernon – Recently fell and suffered injuries. Stepped off high sidewalk near WOMR.

Michelle F. – Will not be seeking reappointment to Disability Commission due to appointment on Licensing Board and other volunteer commitments. She wished the committee good luck in the future. Everyone thanked Michelle for her work and wished her well.

**Ongoing Issues:**

Vernon – Treasury report

Gift Fund \$22,935.08 with an additional \$50 donation for a Notary performed by Vernon. FY16 budget - \$2,172.74 left. Town Warrant - \$ 0

Herbie – presented new Dis. Com. pens that were purchased and the purchase order has been sent out for the table cover.

He received official copy of application for school variance that committee already approved.

Meeting with Town Manager (Herbie, Vernon, Gloria and Heather Rogers) went well. Herbie stated that he found Town Manager very supportive of the committee. Office space was discussed but Town Manager felt he could not look at this issue at this time. He supported the idea of the Trap Shed on the pier. Could possibly move shed to parking area in the future.

Electric Wheelchairs – inspected and found that one needs just a new battery and one needs a new battery and a new arm. Motion made by Swany and seconded by Linda that we used available funds to repair electric wheelchairs. Vote 6 – 0 to approve funds. Vernon will get estimates for the repairs and return to committee.

Michelle D – stated that a woman wants to sell her scooter. Suggested that she sell it privately.

Discussed equipment issues and availability. Will try to have Chris Hottle and the VNA physical therapist, Sherry Williams, at a future meeting.

Meeting with Eric Larsen – Town moving ahead with paving. No definite plan at this time. Continued issues with brick sidewalks.

Accessible Provincetown meeting – 60 -70 people. Well received. Group very appreciative of beach mats. Others in group pledged future contributions to Accessible Provincetown – Seamen’s Bank and Jay Critchley – Swim for Life.

Parking issues around Handicapped parking spaces. School is requesting additional spaces, and there is an issue regarding a space on Pearl Street. Dominic will be invited to meet with us about these issues. The committee would also like to know the percentage of town spaces that are designated as Handicapped parking.

**Other Business:**

Disability Awareness Events – Year Rounder – Vern, Swany and Linda able to represent Dis. Com. at this event.

Five Year Plan and Mission Statement – to be discussed at next meeting.

Swany and Rowan Wielbland are preparing a handout regarding Service Dogs.  
Rowan announced that she will be applying for the vacant position on the Dis Com.

Herbie made a motion and Swany seconded that we send a letter thanking Michelle F. for her services. Approved 6-0

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of November 10, 2015 approved with change. Michelle D. was excused. Motion made by Swany/ seconded by Michelle F. Vote 6-0

**Next Meeting Scheduled for:** January 12, 2016 @ 12PM

Meeting Adjourned at:

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by.  
Linda Loren