Provincetown Disability Commission
Minutes of the Meeting
May 11, 2011
Meeting at Town Hall

Members Present: Michelle DeMarco, Barbara Grasso, JoAnn DiOrio, Linda Loren

Members Absent: Vernon Porter, Randa Krise

Introduction of new member of Commission: Teri Nezbeth

Guests: Candace Nagle, D. Trent, Michael Canizales

New Business:

Candace Nagle: Introduced herself and gave a brief history of her work with the Commission to make the Dog Park handicap accessible by the installation of hand rails, parking and strategically placed benches. Candace is at this meeting in support of Michael Canizales who is seeking licensure to open a Doggie Day Care & Spa. She stated that there are currently 339 issued dog licenses in town and 155 of the owners are over 55 years of age.

Michael Canizales: Asking for support of his Doggie Day Care/Spa which will require licensure and approval for sewer and water hook up. Facility will offer pick up of dogs with this service free to Senior Citizens and those with Disabilities. Per ADA regulations there will be parking at the facility as well as appropriate access to all of the facility. This will be a year round business that will include boarding, grooming, day care and training of canines for the use as bed bug detectors. There will be a discount for all seniors and those with disabilities. The town's only kennel is for sale and it would be difficult for both tourists and residents if there was no kennel in town. Mike also stated that there would be a fee scale that would assist residents, especially due to seasonal work. He wants to be open and fully operational by May of 2012. Requested letter of support is needed by June 13, 2011

Committee voted and results were unanimous to support this endeavor and send a letter stating so to the selectmen.

JoAnn DiOrio gave a brief history of the commission for the new member, Teri Nezbeth. She discussed the town brochure with information for those with disabilities, information leaflets for all restaurants and the tour and evaluation of all town facilities.

Old Business:

Minutes of meetings were reviewed and approved. Feb. 9, 2011; March 9, 2011; March 23, 2011 & March 30, 2011.

Sound Amplification System for Town Hall: Will be available soon. Signage regarding this system will be posted at Town Hall and on the Town Website.

Waiver for the Pier: Waver has been granted by the State Disability Commission for removal of non-functioning lift and installation of additional ramp at ferry terminal.

Handicap Parking Spaces at Town Hall: Issue regarding lack of vision to see oncoming traffic when backing out of spaces. Mirror will be donated and posted on pole near these spaces.

House Bill #2883: Bill to be reintroduced into the state legislator. This bill would limit the use of funds provided to the Disability Commissions from the Handicap Parking violations and would establish a new task force to address access issues for all Town Buildings.

New Business:

New Restaurant opened – Ten Tables – questions of accessibility arose and this will be investigated.

Barbara Grasso raised issue of access though guest parking at Pilgrim House. There is open access from Bradford to Commercial Street but frequently the sidewalk is blocked by cars. This is private property but the owners will be asked if they could have their guests not obstruct the side walk.

Next Meeting: June 15, 2011 @ 11AM @ Town Hall

Parking Department will meet to discuss ongoing issues with handicap parking violations

Summer priorities for Commission will be discussed.