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**Fairhaven Commission on Disability Meeting 02/15/2017 @ FCOA**

**Present:** Charlie Murphy, Mark Rees, Anne Silvia, Donna Lavalley, Joe Borelli (over the phone), Ronnie Medina and Maria Walker

**Absent:** Trina Bigham, Diane Rocha, Waldemar DeOliviers and Maria DeOliviera

**I Open Meeting** 6:45

**II Review last meeting minutes 11/16/2016** Anne Silvia moved to approve minutes, Ronnie Medina seconded. All voted in favor of accepting minutes.

**III Treasurers** Anne Silvia reported that our budget has been submitted to the town.

**IV Town Information**

**V Old Business:**

- New signs for the disability parking slots at the Senior Center are being prepared by students at the New Bedford VOC. Mr. Donald Spooner has donated tires for the project.

**VI New Business**

- Trina is excused from upcoming meetings, and will be back when she can.
- Disaster Preparedness Presentations: Anne Silvia reported that the program is grant based, and she will keep reaching out.
- Sign language class: The proposed teacher is fully booked as of now and will contact Anne if she finds the time to offer a class. Anne will also look into finding another teacher and can maybe fit a sign language clas into this cycles budget.
- Charlie Murphy will e-mail all board members as soon as more information is available about the regional meeting for all CODs in Massachusetts.
- General discussion about updating Town Accessible Booklets. Maria Walker mentioned that she had reached out out to the new Special Education Program at ORR about possible collaboration, but had no news.
- Charlie Murphy mentioned the Annual Semi-Formal Ball and announcements of awards for MO Life, and Donna Lavalley handed out flyers and gave a short presentation about Independence Academy, Inc.

**VII Presentation**

- Presentation on Community Autism Resources and their Gotshall Access Program by Kate Dansereau and Mary Fox. More information can be found at [www.community-autism-resources.com](http://www.community-autism-resources.com).

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### **VIII Upcoming fairs**

- Coastline's Health Fair takes place at the Dartmouth COA on May 17.
- Coastline's Mental Health Fair, a conference for providers, takes place at White's in Westport on May20.

### **IX Closing comments and adjournment**

- Next meeting will be May 10, 2017 at 6.30 pm at the Fairhaven COA.
- \*No further business. Joe Borelli motioned to adjourn, Ronnie Medina seconded, all voted in favor .

Meeting adjourned at 7:55.

submitted Maria Walker

Respectfully