

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD  
COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES  
Thursday, July 1, 2010  
SHEFFIELD TOWN HALL DOWNSTAIRS MEETING ROOM  
4:00 PM**

Commission Members Present: Judy Steindler (elected new chair)  
Noah Parsons (Vice Chair)  
Denise Rueger (outgoing Chair)  
Dave Wells [with the assistance of Nan  
Wells] (Clerk)  
Laura Grunfeld

Town Administrator: Joe Kellogg

Absent: Maryann Hyatt  
Don Perry

Chair Rueger called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes of the Commission on Disabilities for May 20, 2010 were moved to be approved by Steindler, seconded by Grunfeld, and unanimously approved as written.

Minutes for June 17, 2010 were moved to be approved by Steindler, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed by Grunfeld, and unanimously approved as written.

Copies of the 2 Meeting Minutes will be E-Mailed to Jack Pollitt.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, JOE KELLOGG DROPPED BY FOR A COUPLE OF MINUTES:** Kellogg explained the format of the Commission minutes in order to have them loaded as pdf files (electronic inclusion) for our web site. Requested we make the Commission minutes as brief as possible. For those of us who need more information, keep a personal journal of minutes and turn in a public set.

He suggested another good Seminar for us to consider might be a Sign Language Course.

**RUEGER STATED SHE DID NOT WISH TO BE ELECTED CHAIR FOR THE COMING YEAR:** She will be very busy starting in August with Kiwanis.

Commission on Disabilities' Minutes  
July 1, 2010  
Page 1 of 3

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

Wells moved that we elect Steindler as Chair, Grunfeld seconded his motion, and Steindler was unanimously approved as the Commission's new chair.

Steindler moved that Parsons be re elected vice chair for the coming year, Grunfeld seconded her motion, and Parsons was unanimously approved to continue as the Commission's vice chair.

Steindler moved that Wells[with the assistance of Nan Wells] be re elected as clerk for the coming year, Grunfeld seconded her motion, and Wells was unanimously approved to continue as the Commission's clerk.

**WEB SITE FRONT PAGE DRAFT PRESENTED:** Wells shared progress being made on Commission Web site inclusions. Members were encouraged to take their copy of the draft home to review, at their leisure, information already included and for additional information which should be included. Another progress report will be shared at the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**NEW COMMISSION SEMINAR TOPICS DISCUSSED:** Sign Language Seminar and Lyme disease.

**SETTING UP A SHEFFIELD LIBRARY DISABILITIES' SECTION UPDATE:** Rueger said she must follow up with the Aktion Club regarding having a disability section in the Sheffield Library. Steindler will also talk to Nancy Hahn.

**COMMISSION TO ASK FOR A SMALL REGULAR COLUMN IN THE SHEFFIELD TIMES:** Grunfeld will make the contact with the Sheffield Times Staff. We need to let Sheffield residents know what projects we are undertaking, progress and conclusions. Next *Sheffield Times* deadline is August 15.

**SHEFFIELD TOWN HALL ENTRANCE RAMP RE-GRADING A MUST:** Parsons explained how very difficult it was, after his recent surgery, to enter the town hall using his wheelchair and the help of his mother.

**STATUS OF DALE ALDEN'S SUGGESTION OF A LOCKED BOX:** Rueger reminded Town Administrator/Ass't Town Administrator of Dale's suggestion. She says New Marlborough has one outside their town hall.

**POLLITT'S E-MAIL:** The Commission agrees with Pollitt that it is paramount that we respond immediately to Sheffield citizens' requests or needs. We are a new organization and it has taken time to get up and running.

**COMMISSION PLEASED THAT HYATT WILL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE ON AS A MEMBER:**

**MASS DOT RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUE TO BE DISCUSSED:**

**PHOTO STUDY:** Parsons and Wells will take some photos/notes of the North entrance to Sheffield businesses (Gulotta area). Maybe another traffic configuration might be safer for all concerned vehicles and pedestrians as well as those who use adaptive equipment.

**BOOK ORDERED BY KELLOGG ON 30 DAY TRIAL:** A complete 2010 Directory for Disability Resources(\$180) was evaluated by the Commission and found to be disappointing with the recommendation to Kellogg to return it.

**JULY 15<sup>th</sup> COMMISSION CALENDAR AGENDA:** RSVP Resource Calendar Disabilities' section, Commission Web site, Next Seminar.

**STEINDLER CONTINUES TO USE, WITH SUCCESS, THE SMALL ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICE:**

*Wells moved to adjourn this meeting, seconded by Parsons, and unanimously so approved.*

Steindler adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Dave Wells [assisted by Nan Wells]