## TOWN OF SHEFFIELD COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES Thursday, August 5, 2010 SHEFFIELD TOWN HALL DOWNSTAIRS MEETING ROOM 4:00 PM

Commission Members Present:	Judy Steindler (chair) Noah Parsons (vice chair) Dave Wells [with the assistance of Nan Wells] (Clerk)
	Laura Grunfeld Don Perry Denise Rueger

Absent:

Maryann Hyatt

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** <u>Minutes of the Commission on Disabilities for</u> July15, 2010 were moved to be approved by Perry, seconded by Rueger, and unanimously approved as written.</u>

### **STEINDLER SHOWED THE COD A HARD COPY PRINTOUT OF THE COMMISSIONS' NEW WEB SITE FRONT PAGE ADDITIONS:** All were pleased with the progress we are making with getting the Commission's Web Site Links up and running. Many thanks to Administrator Kellogg for all his efforts, behind the scenes, to make it a reality.

## WELLS PRESENTED HANDOUTS ON 3 COD WEB SITE LINKS FOR

DISCUSSION: [Link 8] "Good Read Suggestions" was moved by Steindler to be ready to E-Mail to Administrator Kellogg and Ass't Administrator LaBombard for putting up on the Commission's Web Site Page after 3 additions have been incorporated [1. Which books on our list are carried by The Bookloft 2. Which books are in the Sheffield Bushnell-Sage Library and 3. All annotations in our book list are in quotation marks, italics and individually noted as the annotation Source was Amazon.com. The motion was seconded by Grunfeld and unanimously approved. Steindler will also check with Administrator Kellogg if these source credits will be sufficient to allow us to quote the annotated material.

[Link 9] **"Articles/Web Sites of Interest"** still needs some annotations for links shared. Various COD members have taken on doing the missing Commission on Disabilities' Minutes August 5, 2010 Page 1 of 3 annotations. Those annotation assignments will be E-Mailed to ALL. [Link 9] moved to be ready to submit to Administrators Kellogg and LaBombard once these annotations are received by Wells, seconded by Perry, and unanimously so approved.

[Link 10] **"Disability Resources and Assistance Information"** was tabled for our next meeting due to a lack of time.

WELLS CIRCULATED AN UPDATED COPY OF THE COMMISSIONS' SUBMISSIONS TO THE "2011 RSVP SENIOR CALENDAR" FOR EDITING DOUBLE CHECKS: Grunfeld moved that the Commissions' NEW section to the 2011 RSVP Senior Calendar" be submitted as is and let the RSVP task force double check our resource listings, seconded by Rueger, and unanimously so approved.

WELLS HANDED OUT COPIES OF THE RSVP CALENDAR AD SIZES AND ACCOMPANYING COSTS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES: No action was taken.

**GRUNFELD VISITED THE UCP (UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY) OFFICE IN PITTSFIELD:** She reported that the Pittsfield UCP had invited us to take a tour of their extensive assistive technology holdings and a chance to learn about their purpose and usefulness.

#### GRUNFELD SPOKE TO NANCY HAHN OF THE SHEFFIELD LIBRARY:

Grunfeld reported that Hahn was really pleased to put up a September display for COD Books. Videos, and other Materials. However, Hahn didn't think she would be able to give the Commission a whole shelf/section for Books and Materials on Disabilities.

A suggestion was made that we might have to create a resource place for our materials in the Sheffield Town Hall. It was decided that we would loan to Hahn materials we have collected from our March Seminar to add to the library display along with copies of our **"Good Read"** Books we have garnered for our Commission Web Site page.

GRUNFELD ASKED THE COMMISSION TO PUSH BACK THE PLANNED FALL SEMINAR (DISABILITIES FAIR) TO A DATE TO BE DETERMINED IN NOVEMBER: <u>She then put this statement as a motion, to which Perry</u> seconded it, and it was unanimously approved.

GRUNFELD READ HER DRAFT OF THE COMMISSION UPDATE ARTICLE TO BE SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION IN THE NEXT *SHEFFIELD TIMES*:

Grunfeld's article entitled "COD Focuses on Information Distribution" was well received. She used the coming on board of now chair Steindler as her vehicle to highlight this Commission's progress. Grunfeld said she could only leave 48

Commission on Disabilities' Minutes August 5, 2010 Page 2 of 3 hours open for Commission members to respond to her draft and submit editing comments. <u>Wells moved that after editing comments were in, and the</u> <u>article shared with Administrator Kellogg for his nod of approval; that the</u> <u>article submission for the Sheffield Times be accepted as redrafted. His motion</u> <u>was seconded by Perry and unanimously so approved.</u>

**THE COMMISSION RE-LOOKED AT POSSIBLY CHANGING DAYS OR TIME FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**: The Commission discussed whether there might be a better day or time to meet that might help Sheffield residents consider applying for our two open positions or help Hyatt attend our meetings. We value her expertise and would hate to lose her because we did not look at other meeting time options. No action was taken at this time.

WELLS AND PARSONS BOTH SPOKE TO THE INACCESSIBILITY, FOR THEM, TO ENTER SHEFFIELD'S TOWN HALL: The ramp grade makes it very difficult and potentially dangerous for those with disabilities to enter the Town Hall. Parsons almost tipped over backwards trying to enter the Town Hall in his wheelchair on July 1. The lack of a door bell or push button opening for the door is also of concern because neither can enter without waiting for help and this situation for them, must also be true for other disabled residents of our community.

GRUNFELD RE-APPROACHED A PAST DISCUSSION REGARDING THE NEED FOR A REGIONAL DISABILITIES' RESOURCE WEB SITE (disability accessible web site): Discussion followed but no action was taken.

**OUR NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING PROBABLY WILL NOT HAVE A QUORUM:** Rueger, Perry, and Grunfeld announced they would not be able to attend our next scheduled meeting for August 19 and it was questionable whether Hyatt would make it. <u>It was moved by Grunfeld that our next meeting</u> <u>should be September 2, seconded by Parsons, and unanimously so approved.</u>

AGENDA DECIDED FOR OUR SEPTEMBER 2 MEETING: 1.) Continue with editing and writing Commission Web Site Links 2.) Work on the November "Resource Seminar" 3.) Other business as nec.

# Wells moved to adjourn this meeting, seconded by Perry, and unanimously so approved.

Steindler adjourned the meeting at 5:35 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Dave Wells [assisted by Nan Wells]

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