

TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

August 24, 2012

Sheffield Bushnell-Sage Library Downstairs
3:30 PM

Commission Members Present: Laura Grunfeld Chair
Dave Wells [with the assistance of Nan Wells] (clerk)
Lori-Beth Amato
Claudia Martin
Gail Mullen

Grunfeld called the C.O.D. meeting open at 3:30 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the Commission on Disabilities for Friday, July 20, 2012 were moved to be approved by Martin, seconded by Amato, and unanimously approved as written.

VARIOUS ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- 1.) October 18 Speaker Series' update reports were shared and discussed: Karran is a confirmed speaker; Dawn Matthews of UCP is still not a confirmed presenter although we believe she will be a 'yes;' the brochure, originally a free hand out by Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing [MCDHH] is too large a publication to now be a freebie with all the government cut backs but there is a free complete download from the State Department Web site[www/mass.gov/mcdhh]; discussion followed regarding contacting AdLib, and/or an audiologist and it was decided that the three presenters already, in place, would not allow for any additional resource speakers / presenters; discussion also followed regarding contacting Sandy Hubbard, Director of Student Services at Mt. Everett Regional School and invite or make known to parents of students with hearing difficulties that this informational C.O.D. Speaker Series might be of interest; Martin will speak with John-Arthur, Director of the Senior Center, to see what plans are in the making for the 3rd Thursday Luncheon for that day; Wells will design the flyer for this event; Amato will compile a resource list of venues which help with hearing difficulties and needs.
- 2.) Discussion followed on what should be included in the next Sheffield Times C.O.D. informational Article ... deadline for the next submission is October 15. Martin continues to write and submit the informational C.O.D. articles.
- 3.) Continued the planning the C.O.D. collaborative Spring of 2013 event "Summer Activities for Kids that include Kids with Disabilities" or "Summer Fun for ALL." Grunfeld has not yet met with school personnel to set a date for this event.

- a. a date still needs to be set, as soon as possible, with the school
 - b. the C.O.D. added more to our vendor contact list for the collaborative Spring of 2013 event: Blue Rider Stables, South County Community Center, Special Olympics, CATA, Camp Half Moon, Butternut, Catamount, a vendor/presenter for local accessible trails, Kids'n Cops, Canaan Fishing Derby, Bushnell-Sage Summer Library Programming, Shaker Village, and the Norman Rockwell Center
 - c. the C.O.D. will contact vendors once we have a confirmed date
 - e. at this time, we will not restrict the vendor activities' list with regard to age
- 4.) Discussion continued on the importance for the Commission to continue to reach out to the Town Administrator and the Select Board to let the Town understand that the Commission is willing to facilitate and help the Town find avenues and resources to aid the Town in financing an automatic door opener for the Town Hall. Grunfeld will speak with LaBombard in this regard
- 5.) Planning continued with the anticipated July 26, 2013 ADA Celebration which the C.O.D. hopes to hold in the Sheffield Town Park. Discussion and planning for this event followed: suggested time for the ADA celebration would be 4 to 7 PM; having it a 'bag' dinner; maybe ask the Kiwanis hot dog truck to assist by vending the event; consider inviting the following organizations and presenters ... a signer, Braille demo and Braille handouts, CATA, Key Club, Aktion Club, Kiwanis; and special guests/speakers – ie. Mary Makuc; ADA Co-Ordinator and others. A tentative guest list would include: Town Administrator, Select Board, other Town officials, Sheffield Groups, Commissions, and local Businesses. Grunfeld was asked to approach LaBombard and Ovitt by E-Mail regarding setting aside the July 26 date, reserving the Town Park, along with some of the ideas the C.O.D. has discussed regarding this event.
- 6.) Discussion regarding C.O.D. accessibility and meeting at the library.

THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING WILL BE: Friday, September 28, 2012 at 3:30 PM at the Sheffield Bushnell-Sage Library, downstairs meeting room.

****PLEASE NOTE:** *that the Commission voted in July to change its regularly scheduled September meeting to Friday, September 28 at 3:30 PM, and the October C.O.D. meeting will be held Friday, October 19 at 3:30 PM, both at the Bushnell-Sage Library downstairs meeting room.*

AGENDA:

1. Finalize October Speaker Series' details including publicity/flyer
2. Thank you notes
3. Discuss C.O.D. meeting locations
4. Spring of 2013 collaborative event
5. July 2013 ADA Picnic Celebration to be sponsored by the Sheffield C.O.D.
6. *Sheffield Times* C.O.D. article
7. Reports
8. Other business as necessary

Grunfeld moved to adjourn this meeting, seconded by Wells, and was unanimously approved for adjournment.

Grunfeld adjourned the meeting at 4:50 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Dave Wells [assisted by Nan Wells] Clerk