

COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

DATE: 19 August 2010

LOCATION: Winthrop Senior Center
Harvard Street
Winthrop

MEMBERSHIP:

Present:

Tink
Kathy
Jon
Gerry
Sue
Linda
Lee

Absent:

Gloria

CALLED TO ORDER: 7:03p.m.

BUSINESS CONDUCTED:

July Minutes:

Read and accepted

Treasury Report:

\$30,504.00

Guest Speaker:

Mass Office of Disabilities scheduled for this meeting has been postponed
Till September ... their request

Architecturl Access Board:

Friday September 17th - site visit at Gorman School

October 19th - meeting with Winthrop Commission and Gorman School rep
In Boston at AAB office

Annual Report:

Copy requested from Commission for publish in handbook. Lee sent copy along.

Short Beach Update:

Work on Short Beach continues. Discussion still viable regarding location of parking
Space closeness to ramp for disabled and wheelchair persons....more information
To follow as work progresses

List of Disability Commissions:

There is a list that was done some time ago....what has changed is a question....Lee will
Research and bring information back at next meeting

Handicap License Plates:

Plates do have to be ordered through the registry. A person cannot just go to RMV
Location and just pick up a set. Forms and paperwork has to be filled out for the
RMV to keep on file with "handicapped" parties information. If plates are on a
Vehicle then that vehicle can only be driven when "handicapped" party is in the
Vehicle. Discussion also touched on plates vs placard.

Disability Policy Consortium:

Robin Powell working with Commission Chair Lee to setup a date and time for a visit
To our commission here in Winthrop.

Healthcare Budget:

Forecast is that the Massachusetts has been/will be slashed by \$20 million dollars for
The fiscal year.

National Institute of Health and the Dept. Of Public Health Council:

Monitor all health care studies being done in this state

Tai Chi:

Article in New York Times about a woman by the name of Mary Petersen. It seems
That she has been attending classes and finds that it is quite helpful for the pain
And muscular problems of Fibromyalgia which she has.

Vice Chair Position:

This commission has an unfilled seat and is in need of a Vice-Chair person. Our
Chair asked that we consider who could fill the vacancy. This subject will be
Readdressed at the September meeting.

Shore Drive Beach:

A sand wheelchair was put in the beach house building on Shore Drive for use this
Summer. Unfortunately there is no access to the place where the chair is stored
For use. A better access plan should be worked out by DCR.

(3)

“Raw Faith” pirate tall ship:

Ship is wheelchair and handicapped accessible. Owners daughter has “Marfans” disease
So he made ship accessible.

Winthrop Ferry:

Questions whether accessible? Have toilets? Seating for handicapped? It was noted
That a yellow rope was across the entrance so no one had access.

Department of Public Health - Childrens Eye Screening:

A packet of information is being mailed to Gerry. It will contain information on what
Programs are available for Pre-School/School children addressing the subject of
Computer use is actually straining the eyesight of these youngsters. Programs are
Out there for use but are not being introduced to the public.

Addition to Annual Report:

Addition to report would be the information regarding the wheelchair for use at the
Beach. Voted on with all approved. Disapproved none.

Special Meeting:

The Winthrop Commission will conduct a regular meeting in September along with our
Minutes and reports followed by our guest speaker. The regular meeting will be
Suspended and a special meeting will be conducted for brainstorming and planning
For the future “Healthfaire” being sponsored by the Winthrop Commission. The
Special meeting will be called to order and adjourned as any regular meeting.

Next Meeting Date:

Thursday September 21st, 2010

Meeting Adjourned: 9:16p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Linda McGeorge Acting Secretary for Gloria Evans