

Town of South Hadley Commission on Disabilities

Minutes of virtual meeting of Commission on Disabilities. 01/19/2022, 5:00 pm.

Present: Johnstone Campbell, Lawrence Dubois, Tay Silveira, **Guest:** Beth Cooke and Viv Price.

Johnstone called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

Tay moved to approve the minutes of 11/17/2021 as amended. Johnstone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Johnstone said that he had talked to Rick Dunderdale and he was applying to the commission.

Johnstone gave an update on our survey and he informed us that several people were interested in getting copies of the survey. Since we don't have a paper copy of the survey, it was determined we should get one together. Johnstone commented that on the E-Survey there was no way for people to contact us if they wanted to follow up. Larry said that would have to be added by the survey originator. Johnstone was to follow up with Kristen to see how that information could be added.

Larry mentioned that there are 2 ways to access signing up for vacancies on commissions and that 1 of the ways takes you to an app. That doesn't seem to work. Above that app is a link to click if you are having problems, but that just opens an E-mail form.

Johnstone brought up the annual report. Larry mentioned that the annual report goes by the town's financial year not the calendar year. Johnstone said we would put aside comment on the annual report, and look and see what was done in the financial year.

Viv suggested looking at applying for ARPA money to address any disability needs that might help with problems brought about by COVID. Viv will forward information on the ARPA program.

Johnstone went over some points from the MOD seminar. Larry brought up the question of who will be responsible to oversee compliance with and training on MOD. Viv stated that it would be a long process before all the objectives could be accomplished and how the requirements would be paid for. Tay said that at her session they said there were some grant resources available for services and moneys to support the requirements for accessibility. There was discussion on the group forming a plan on how to implement the MOD requirements.

Beth informed the group that HC accessible equipment had been purchased for the Mosier School and would be going in soon. Viv asked if Beth was aware of who would maintain the equipment. Beth said she did not have an answer. Viv suggested that the commission should look into being involved with all town parties purchasing and maintaining HC equipment.

Johnstone brought up the DOG Decision about a quorum of one committee being present and commenting at a different committees' meeting. The group discussed the pitfalls of being at other committees' meetings.

Johnstone brought up inviting the new town manager to our February meeting. The group felt that it was time to meet with her. Johnstone will extend the invitation. The group felt one of the questions for the town administrator should be her plans on to pay for and implement the MOD requirements

Next meeting is scheduled for 02/16/2022 at 5pm.

Larry motioned to adjourn at 6:06 pm Tay seconded and it carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence Dubois (Secretary)