

COMMISSION FOR THE DISABLED

Minutes - Monday June 20, 2017

5:00 P.M. Small Conference Room

Attendance: Present: D. Ciota, S. Signorelli, E. Pearson,
Commissioners

T. Phillips, ADA Coordinator,
Director of Social Services

Absent: C. Calabro, W. Kenyon, G. Romero, & C.
Santori

No Visitors

D. Ciota requested E. Pearson to take the minutes of
the meeting.

Minutes of meeting of May 22, 2017, were read and
accepted as read.

D. Ciota indicated that he has drafted a letter to
send to the Board of Selectmen to establish a general protocol
regarding any plans to further develop any Town owned property
such as the Schlumberger property. He expects to review his
draft letter with T. Phillips in an attempt to make it more
effective and is considering appearing before the Board of
Selectmen in the hopes of establishing some kind of common
policy for the future. Rudy has already indicated that the
Town would make sure that all the outside aspects of the
Schlumberger property would be ADA compliant. However, the
Commission's concerns are that any Tenants of the facility
comply with the ADA requirements in any modifications of the
interior. S. Signorelli raised the issue of whether or not the
final draft letter could be reviewed by the entire Commission
for each member's input and D. Ciota had no problem with that
suggestion.

Everyone agreed that these requirements need to be
incorporated in the leases. S. Signorelli raised the
question of who reviews this issue before the leases are

signed. E. Pearson suggested that perhaps our Commission should review the leases before they are signed. S. Signorelli suggested that perhaps all Commission members should be invited to the Board of Selectmen's meeting when D. Ciota makes his presentation.

E. Pearson suggested that just as the Town's Conservation Commission is consulted by the P & Z and Inland Wetlands Commissions for any issues regarding the Conservation Commission's expertise, such as wetlands and open space, the Commission for the Disabled should be consulted for any ADA issues that arise regarding any applications before the P & Z Commission especially in light of the building Department's statement that they do not enforce ADA requirements.

D. Ciota stated that the entire plans which the applicant for the Ice Rink Facility, also known as the Winter Club, has submitted to the Planning & Zoning Commission for the proposed development of the property located at the corner of Peaceable Street and Old South Salem Road (the former Pinchbeck Nurseries) had been provided to T. Phillips for his and/or the Commission's review and comments. A three page memorandum prepared by T. Phillips regarding the Ice Rink Facility was submitted and included as an attachment to these minutes. D. Ciota provided a copy of his memorandum dated June 7, 2017, which had been submitted to the P & Z Commission, which is also attached to these minutes. This memorandum explains that if the Winter Club is strictly a "private club" it may not be subject to ADA requirements, but D. Ciota and T. Phillips explained that usually a "private club" morphs into a public facility once it allows nonmember persons and organizations to use the facility. They indicated that this usually happens for financial reasons. If that should occur, then the ADA requirements are applicable.

The discussion then turned to the fifth item on the agenda, namely the updating of the Resource Booklet for People with Disabilities which was initially prepared about eight years ago. Everyone agreed that the recent publication by the Commission for the Aging was an example to strive to imitate in preparing a similar publication for the Commission for the Disabled. D. Ciota pointed out that there are Federal

requirements that all Town employees must be trained regarding the requirements of ADA.

Around 6:00 P.M. D. Ciota had to leave due to other obligations.

The following discussions occurred between S. Signorelli, E. Pearson and T. Phillips with the understanding that the Chairman needs to be consulted regarding all recommendations and comments.

S. Signorelli suggested that the Commission needs to issue some kind of public notice that the Commission has several, perhaps three vacancies to complete a full membership of nine members. T. Phillips offered to contact Wendy, Rudy's assistant regarding this issue.

S. Signorelli asked about the status of the accessibility study and the preparation of the RFP that hopefully will be issued shortly including certain significant sidewalks along with the Town's services, programs and buildings.

S. Signorelli reported that as of now (1) C. Santori has agreed to head up a subcommittee regarding the transportation needs of our clients, (2) C. Calabro has agreed to head a subcommittee regarding the development of an updated booklet that was the subject of Item 5 of the Agenda of today's meeting, and (3) that she along with T. Phillips and D. Ciota on working on the accessibility study.

S. Signorelli wondered whether or not it might be more efficient to establish the position of a Vice-Chairman of the Commission?

S. Signorelli raised the issue of changing the starting time for our meetings, but withdrew that issue once it appeared that any change of time, such as to 6:00 P.M., would be a further inconvenience to T. Phillips.

Respectfully submitted,
Edwin C. Pearson

Temporary Secretary

Attachments: Three page commentary by T.Phillips of Ice Rink Facility

Three page memo to P & Z Comm.
dated 6/7/17 from D. Ciota