

Town of East Haven, CT
American Disability Act Commission
Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2013
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Members Present:

Chairman Brian Savo
Vice-Chairman Kerry Martens
Commissioner Michael Tufano
Chairman Brian Savo
Commissioner Joseph Vellali
Commissioner Dan Hoff
Town ADA Coordinator Candace Criscuolo

Staff Present:

Arthur L. DeSorbo, Dir.

Members Absent:

Commissioner Stevens

Chairman Savo called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M. Roll was called and a quorum was present. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chair Martens made a **MOTION** to accept the minutes of the May 16th meeting and Commissioner Vellali seconded. All were in favor, none were opposed and none abstained. **MOTION CARRIED**

Old Business

The binder of the recommendations for Town buildings was passed around. The architect that was doing the plans for the church has passed away and as soon as Director DeSorbo can find another one, that project will be revisited. ADA Criscuolo stated that she was the "guinea pig" for the Town's new handicapped Beach wheelchair. She said it was very well received and worked wonderfully. There was a resident at Village at Mariner's Point who used to be an avid swimmer before she had a stroke. Her daughter wheeled her into the water in the chair and the resident was able to swim. There were a few issues with the chair but have since been resolved. A safety vest has been ordered for the chair. Director DeSorbo stated that he would like to be more proactive in advance with the availability of the chair. He also would like a log or questionnaire from the people that use the chair to know what their thoughts or concerns about it are. To use the chair, one would need assistance. Director DeSorbo has a wish list as an electric powered chair would be a nice addition to the beach. That is something that could be looked into.

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New Business

Discussion was held with regard to a breakfast that is done in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce. Vice-Chair Martens has already spoken with Bob Limoncelli from the Chamber regarding this. Chairman Savo stated he would like to get the ball rolling with this and see what kind of response we get as it's all about acceptance. Vice-Chair Martens made a **MOTION** to put together the event to educate the public on how beneficial people with disabilities could bring to their organization. Commissioner Hoff seconded. All were in favor, none were opposed and none abstained. **MOTION CARRIED**

Vice-Chair Martens will talk to the Chamber and see where they'll be holding their next Business After Hours to promote this event and maybe give a suggestion on who could be a speaker and what they could do with regard to food. ADA Criscuolo stated she thinks that this is a great idea and ask local business to help with raffles, etc. Everything should be put on paper and brought back to our next meeting.

Director DeSorbo stated that he would like the commission to think of projects that could be done that are doable, more than "fluff". The beach wheelchair, and the pool lift are great examples and within the range. Someone suggested that the walkway in the Senior Center is very slippery and could that be looked into. Anytime sidewalks are done through the Town or Federal the corners are "cut in" so that disabled people can get from the street onto the sidewalks. There are street signals now with both visual and audio aides. Any sidewalks that are damaged by trees the Town is responsible for but other than that situation, the resident is responsible. He will also address the crosswalks at the beach and he has ordered speed "humps" which are removable during the winter months to be installed next year by Memorial Day.

There being no other business to come before the agency, a **MOTION** was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 by Commissioner Vellali and seconded by Commissioner Tufano. All were in favor, none were opposed and none abstained. **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda S. LaLuna
Clerk