TOWN OF DENNIS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DISABILITIES
MEMBERSHIP AND CHARGE

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Board of Selectmen shall appoint nine (9) full members. There will be three (3) staggered 3 year terms, (3) members at two (2) years and three (3) members at 1 year terms and (2) alternate members at 1 year terms. The members will annually elect a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. One member will be appointed by the Selectmen to serve as liaison to the Planning and Zoning Boards. Additionally, Committee members should serve as liaison to Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) and the Cape Organization for Rights of the Disabled (CORD). Full members shall have full voting powers. Alternate members shall have voting powers only in the absence of a quorum (5 full members).

COMMITTEE CHARGE

The purpose of the committee is to advise the Board of Selectmen on matters affecting the lives of the residents and taxpayers of the Town of Dennis who are disabled and on matters relative to accessibility laws. The Committee may establish standing committees to address continuing issues or respond to the occasional one time issue. Service on subcommittees shall be through the Chairman's appointment or on a voluntary basis. Act as a centralizing force in the Town of Dennis by providing information, referral, guidance, coordination and technical assistance to private and public agencies, individuals, organizations and institutions to eliminate discrimination against persons with disabilities.

The Disability Committee shall pursue ADA complaints and issues pertaining to disabled Dennis residents. Assist ADA Coordinator in monitoring and making recommendations to new and renovation construction projects. Action by the Committee will be to send violations to the Massachusetts Office on Disabilities. Each year the Committee will review, revise and/or update these general areas of concern. The Committee, through the Chairman, will report on progress of achievements to the Selectmen.
A designated member of the Disability Committee will be responsible for communicating with the Building Department for research purposes and to obtain information related to ongoing construction projects. The designated member shall report to the Committee American Disability Act /Architectural Access Board related issues based upon open permits duly executed at the time of their research.

The Committee will also inform newspapers on upcoming events. It is the responsibility of the Advisory Committee on Disabilities to annually recognize a person or group living or working in the Town of Dennis that has demonstrated special interest in the disabled through the SKIP NELSON A WARD. The award is named for Skip Nelson, a founding member of the Disabilities Committee, who was an avid advocate for the disabled.

The Advisory Committee on Disabilities shall be governed by the policy of the Board of Selectmen regarding committees, commissions, boards and the Massachusetts Open Meeting Laws. In compliance with the Open Meeting Law, notice of the meetings shall be posted at the Town Hall and the Dennis Senior Center.

The Advisory Committee on Disabilities shall meet monthly at a regular scheduled time and place; however, additional meetings may be convened when action is necessary prior to regular meetings. Members are expected to attend all regular scheduled meetings. The Chairman shall determine the agenda prior to the meeting. Committee members may submit agenda items for consideration at least

one week prior to the meeting.

As stated in Article VIL Removal of Appointed Officers (Adopted 10-261999, STM, Art. 16)

Failure to attend meetings:
Where not consistent with M G.L., any appointed official who is a member of a multimember board, committee, or commission may be removed by the appointing authority after a public hearing for failure to attend more than three consecutive meetings. Failure to attend, **if** not adequately explained to the satisfaction of the appointing authority, shall be considered cause for removal.