

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DISABILITIES MINUTES

November 4, 2019

Present: Members, Hussam Awad, Pat Hart, Greahe Kaeselau, Carol Malone,
Bill Savicki

Guests: Diane Rochelle/Historical Commission

Meeting called to order at 9:35AM

Minutes of October 7, 2019 were reviewed and approved with following correction – Bill also attended the volunteer recognition breakfast on October 3rd.

Treasurer's Report:

No report available.

Old Business

Grethe and Bill reported on the “Living with Differences” presentations on October 22nd at the Ezra Baker school and on October 24th at the Wixon school. Students from the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades were in attendance. Speakers included a Dennis police officer on bullying, Danny (last name ?) speaking about his experiences of living with Asperger’s, Katelynne Steinke and her service dog Jones, and Bill and Grethe discussing the challenges of different types of disabilities and demonstrating some adaptive equipment. Responses from the students and school staff were very positive. The Rescue and Jessica books were distributed to the teachers for classroom use. The Town’s videographer was not available, however, there was a phone recording made. It was agreed to try and recruit additional speakers for future presentations including additional outreach to “Project Forward”

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Grethe and Terri Bunce/Town Clerk will attend the November 5th Select Board meeting to recommend a site for a temporary Precinct #2 based on the on-site visits on October 1st.

New Business

Diane Rochelle/Historical Commission Chair attended the meeting to request the Disabilities Committee input on the planned renovation of the Old West Schoolhouse in Dennis Village. She explained several of the upgrades. Also, she discussed the need for a signed Consultation Process Form to be sent to the Massachusetts Historical Society Access Board for a review of ADA compliance. Diane is seeking "modified accessibility" based on the age and structure of the Schoolhouse. It was agreed that the Disabilities Committee is in support of the proposal and that the Town's ADA Coordinator should sign the Process Form.

Grethe announced that the Town is holding a workshop on how the town is impacted by natural hazards and a changing climate. This workshop is part of the Massachusetts Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program. It is scheduled for November 15th at the police station. Grethe and Bill indicated an interest in attending.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55AM.

Next meeting scheduled for December 2, 2019 at 9:30AM at the DPW facility.