

# Sudbury Commission on Disability

Date: March 11, 2019

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: Flynn Building (Silva Room), 278 Old Sudbury Road, Sudbury

Members Present: Kay Bell, Doug Frey, Pat Guthy, Susan Iuliano, Lisa Kouchakdjian, Sue Rushfirth

Members Absent:

Others: Janie Dretler (Liaison from the Board of Selectmen)

Convene: Ms. Guthy called the meeting to Order at 10:07 a.m. Ms. Kouchakdjian will take minutes for the meeting.

Discussion:

Ms. Guthy reported that she did not write a letter to the Board of Selectmen about issues surrounding the Town of Sudbury's membership in a vocational/technical school. Ms. Kouchakdjian stated that she had inquired of Mr. Carty of the BOS whether he could get some guidance from the Town Manager regarding the intentions of the Town with respect to membership in a vocational/technical school. Ms. Kouchakdjian stated that she had not yet received a response from Mr. Carty.

Ms. Guthy stated she would like to write a letter to SMILE Mass to inquire whether it would like the Commission to promote or publicize some of their events and offerings. Ms. Guthy stated the Commission is not yet able to financially support SMILE Mass's initiatives. There was consensus by the Commission regarding this issue.

Ms. Guthy reported that she spoke with Massachusetts office of Open Government. She indicated the Commission could put a disclaimer on its Agendas to allow it to discuss peripheral items..

Ms. Bell stated communications, including e-mails, should contain a disclaimer. Ms. Guthy will provide a draft disclaimer regarding the public nature of our communications.

Ms. Guthy discussed the plan to assess the Town's accessibility. She noted to Commission that, per the Commission's conversation with Mark Herwick, Bill Barletta has done this type of assessment in other towns he has worked in. Ms. Guthy further stated that she saw Representative Carmine Gentile recently and mentioned to him the \$40,000 grant awarded to the Town of Arlington. Ms. Guthy

stated Representative Gentile expressed interest in looking into it. Ms. Guthy suggested that the Commission first meet with Mr. Barletta and develop a relationship with him. The Commission agreed to invite Mr. Barletta to its meeting on March 25<sup>th</sup>. If Mr. Barletta is unavailable for that meeting, the Commission will suggest the April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### Goals Discussion:

The Commission reviewed the draft goals. Ms. Bell suggested the goals should align with Massachusetts Gen. L. ch. 40, Sec. 8J.

The Commission discussed the draft goals as presented by Ms. Iuliano. Ms. Guthy stated the Commission cannot address all of the issues that fall beneath each goal, but over time the Commission can assess all of the issues. Ms. Rushfirth stated she would like to digest the goals more. Ms. Guthy stated the Commission is trying to support people that have a disability that is affecting their life.

Ms. Guthy stated the goals may remain the same over the years. She stated the goals are something that the Commission can measure itself against. Ms. Guthy suggested the Commission continue the discussion at the next meeting and that the Commission focus its discussion on the Assess Goal.

The Commission discussed its Open Forum policy. The Commission agreed a resident may request an item be placed on a future Agenda at the discretion of the Chair. The Commission agreed to use the terminology "Public Comment", rather than Open Forum.

The Commission agreed to move items 2c and 2d to the next Agenda.

Motion to Adjourn by Ms. Bell. Ms. Iuliano seconded the motion. Motion to Adjourn passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by

Lisa Kouchakdjian