

Andover Commission on Disability—December 16, 2015 Committee Meeting

After the agenda was duly posted and distributed, the meeting was convened on Wednesday, December 16th 2016 at 6:34 p.m. in the Memorial Hall Library, Activity Room, Lower Level.

Present Co-Chair Sarah Paterson, Donna Gorzela, Ruth Rosensweig, Julie Pike, Justin Coppola Jr., **Also Present:** Former Chair Justin Coppola Sr.

Minutes Julie made a motion to accept the Minutes of the November 18, 2015 meeting and Justin Jr. seconded. Unanimously approved.

Old Business—Updates

- **Spot Checks:** Sarah read a December 15 email from Jen about the status of Tewksbury street sidewalks. Due to ongoing traffic safety issues, the goal is to collect at least 200 signatures for the town warrant. Chris Cronin Director of Municipal Services. should have information from the last neighborhood meeting in December. Julie reported that Washington Avenue now has sidewalk pads and is a work in progress.
- Sarah reported that there will be an **April 27th 2016 Regional COD** meeting at the Massachusetts School of Law hosted by ACOD. This will be an opportunity for networking and Jeff Dougan from MOD and others will be presenting. There are also a number of voting initiatives for the disability population. *Action Item: Sarah asked that members forward to her any other concerns that should be on the agenda for the regional meeting.*

New Business

- Sarah reported that she and Jen met with Town Manager Flanagan recently and discussed use of the talent bank --specifically about notifying the public on the town website about the need for new members on the ACOD board. Sarah opened up the discussion as to what the specific board requirements are, with respect to composition of boards. *Action Item: Sarah will work with Jen to create a COD description of potential members. She will check in with Jeff Dougan for an up-to-date definition of COD board composition.*

Justin Sr. then cited the applicable state law on number of members, method of choosing, etc and noted the majority must be persons with disability and one must be a member of a family with a disability or someone who works in the disability field.

Announcements: Tonight is Ruth's last meeting as she is moving in a few weeks. Julie gave an update of a newspaper article on ADA issues and an AARP article on new savings plan similar to college 529 plans for the disabled population. *Action Item: Sarah requested that members review their calendars for the next several months to ensure that the day of the week/time of the ACOD meetings still works for everyone. She intends to book the Activity room for the second half of the year very soon as it is very popular.*

Adjournment: At 7:25 p.m. Julie made a motion to adjourn and Ruth seconded. Unanimously approved.

Next meeting *January 27th, 2016 pm @ 6:30p.m.*

Memorial Hall Library, Activity Room, Lower Level

Respectfully Submitted

Susan McKelliget