

Meeting Minutes
Andover Commission on Disability
September 26, 2012

Present: Maddy St.Amand, Julie Pike, Bernadette Lionetta, Jade Perry, Pat Commane, Stephen Surette, Susan McKelliget and Selectman Mary Lyman.

Minutes: The meeting began at 6:38 p.m. Bernadette made a motion to accept the July 25, 2012 minutes, Julie seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved. (August 22, meeting adjourned due to technical difficulties with equipment.)

Note: The September agenda was postponed and a brief business meeting took place instead prior to the scheduled speakers.

Julie made a **motion to approve** Jade Perry as a member of ACOD and Bernadette **seconded**. **Motion unanimously approved.**

Announcement: Maddy reported that Bill Pennington who is head of an organization called 'Homes for the Troops' is organizing an upcoming road race to benefit veterans. Maddy and Bill have not spoken yet but when Bill contacts Maddy she hopes to learn more about exactly what Bill is looking for, and what ACOD is able to provide this effort, in terms of non-monetary support.

Maddy recently received a letter from a group of disability rights activists called "Second Thoughts"-- with the tag line "Massachusetts voters with disabilities opposed to assisted suicide". The organization purports to join all major disability rights organizations in the U.S., Canada, and the U.K. in opposing legalization of assisted suicide. Representatives of the group requested time of all commissions to present their view to "disability" groups".

In view of the Massachusetts' November Ballot Question (Number 2) which would permit assisted suicide in Massachusetts under limited circumstances, Maddy invited two of the group's representatives to attend a portion of the ACOD's meeting in order to inform the commission on areas of concern with respect to the disabled population.

Minutes were not taken during this part of the meeting.

Adjournment: Steven made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Pat. The meeting adjourned at 8:08.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 24, at 6:30 p.m. Activity Room, Memorial Hall Library

Respectfully submitted,

Susan McKelliget