

Meeting Minutes
Andover Commission on Disability
February 23, 2011

Present: Maddy St.Amand, Ruth Rosensweig, Pat Commene, Julie Pike, Stephen Surette, Gil DeMoor, Justin Coppola Jr., and Susan McKelliget.

Minutes: The meeting began at 7:10 p.m. Ruth made a motion to accept the January 26, 2011 minutes. Julie seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved. **Note: These and future meeting minutes will be posted online.**

Old Business—Program Updates:

- Project Lifesaver Pat will contact Lt. Pathiakas and schedule a meeting.
- SPED-grant award ACOD voted at the last meeting to spend \$1500 for three color laser printers (and ink cartridges) for the SPED program at Doherty School. Maddy sent the grant letters to the appropriate parties. The printers are on order and will be paid for upon arrival.

New Business

- **Discussion with Jeff Dugan**—Maddy recently spoke with Jeff at the Massachusetts Office of Disability (MOD). ACOD will be reviewing some upcoming building architectural plans such as the plans for the new Bancroft school to offer access and other recommendations. Jeff will assist in reviewing the blueprints when they become available. Maddy asked Jeff about what other CODs are currently working on and Jeff responded that, unlike Andover, a challenge for many ACODs is to revitalize and reorganize memberships as members move on. Maddy also asked about the concept of having temporary ramps available to individuals or families who may need them in their private residences on a temporary basis. Jeff agreed that there was a need for this service and thought it was an innovative and creative way to solve “temporary disability” access issues. Maddy noted that research into storage, installation, public safety, and liability issues would be needed if ACOD decides to follow up on this concept. **Action Item: ACOD members will ponder this concept for consideration at a future meeting of a vote on whether or not to pursue funding of a temporary ramp program. Maddy will talk with owners of ramp companies. Pat will talk with a contact at the Fire Department.**
- **Potential Commission Efforts** **Action Item: Maddy and Justin Jr. will reach out to the new Stop and Shop Manager locating in the Shawsheen Plaza and provide information about what ACOD does with respect to handicap accessibility issues when new merchants move to town.**

- **Potential grant awards--** ACOD needs to commit funding in March for disbursement before May. *Action Item: Maddy will contact schools, particularly the Sanborn school, for playground access issues; Stephen will check on curb cut needs; and Pat will be in contact with Public Safety Officials about temporary ramps.*

Adjournment Julie made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Stephen. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Next meeting will be March 23, 2011 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan McKelliget