

Minutes: The Commission on Disability Rights & Opportunities held a Regular Meeting on Monday, April 9, 2012 in the Friends Meeting Room, Miller Library Complex. The following items were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Bryan Barry, Chris Balogh, Annmarie McConville, Rosalie Cavanaugh, Jon Dwyer

Commissioners Excused: Kathleen Sullivan, Pat Delaney, Barbara Brandon, Eileen Carpinella

Guest: Tom McHugh

Also in Attendance: Chris Marchand, ADA Coordinator, Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk

1. Review Minutes of March 12, 2012

Dr. Barry made a motion to approve the minutes of March 12, 2012. Ms. Cavanaugh seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

2. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

3. Chairman's Report

Mr. Balogh had nothing to report.

4. ADA Coordinator's Report

Mr. Marchand reported that standards for state and local government facilities have been updated. 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design is a 279 page document. Mr. Marchand reviewed the executive summary and distributed the pages he felt were pertinent to this Commission. All new construction buildings have to meet federal standards and renovations also kick in new standards. The Building Department has no authority to require certain

upgrades if they are not considered reasonable as to cost or accessibility issues. 20% of the project has to be spent on toward making ADA upgrades.

The two library branches had no accommodations for handicapped when they were built between 1950 and 1960. Five years ago the Town put in the ramps. This time around when they went to do the renovations, Mr. Gualtieri wanted to update the doors, bathrooms, etc., but bathrooms were in the basement, and there was no way for a handicapped person to get to the basement to use the bathrooms, so the bathroom renovations were not required.

Mr. McHugh asked about non-compliance. Mr. Marchand said the Building Department inspection would show lack of compliance. There was discussion on small strip mall having no handicapped accessible parking spot. Once the landlord or a tenant does a renovation, it will trigger some compliance.

Mr. Marchand received one complaint since the last Commission meeting. A patient at 2440 Whitney Avenue office complex, complained there was no automatic door at the ramp, and the second set of doors. She was going to a doctor's office in the building. Mr. Marchand is meeting at the site with the building official this week to discuss the situation. Mr. Marchand will report back next month.

Mr. Marchand reported that the renovation of the two branch libraries are not complete. The new doors will be installed on April 16th. The rest of the renovations at the branch libraries are done.

Mr. Marchand will attend the ADACC workshop on April 17th. There is a workshop on accessibility to municipal buildings and another on ADA Title One employment for Human Resources.

Committee reports

There was discussion on table coverage for the Expo. Kathy Sullivan planned to help, but now has a job so she can't be there. Annmarie McConville will help

and Ms. Cavanaugh might be able to be there. Mr. Balogh isn't sure if he can be there this year. Dr. Barry has a table for his business. The Commission will have handouts at the table.

Dr. Barry reported there are two issues on the table that he has brought to the Mayor's Office. He has not had a reply regarding a Facebook Page and business cards.

Mr. Cavanaugh said someone informed her that North Haven has a monthly dance for the over 21 disabled.

Upcoming Spring Fling

There was discussion on refreshments. Ms. McConville purchased water and soda, which Mr. Balogh and Dr. Barry will put in their cars this evening. She will purchase the cake the night of the dance. The dance will be held on Friday, May 4th at the Hamden Middle School from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Volunteers are asked to bring a snack.

Mr. Marchand reported that Bassett Park/Larry's Playground will be updated and improved and made ADA Compliant. Ms. McConville and Ms. Cavanaugh said that Challenger Field which was located at Bassett was paid for by the disabled. They are not sure how they lost it.

Adjournment:

Dr. Barry made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Cavanaugh seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk