

TOWN OF YARMOUTH
DISABILITY COMMISSION

ZOOM MEETING 7/10/20
2:00 pm

THE MEETING WAS NOT CALLED TO ORDER UNTIL 2:12 DUE TO A ZOOM LINK CONFUSION.
PRESENT: DANIEL KNAPIK, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, SARAH O'REILLY, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES, ALLIE STRUMSKI, TEMPORARY CHAIR, GAIL CHARETTE, CO-CHAIR
EVELYN BEAL, SECRETARY PRO-TEM, DAVID BOTTING, DREW KRAUSS, JODY WARNER, AND SHARON LADLEY, LIAISON FROM "AGE FRIENDLY" COMMITTEE.
THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 13th MEETING WERE APPROVED WITH A CORRECTION OF DATE.
THERE WAS A BRIEF RECAP BY GAIL AND DREW OF THE INFORMATION GLEANED FROM GREPHE KAESELAU, DISABILITY CHAIR OF THE TOWN OF DENNIS AND PAT HART, SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE. WE LEARNED THAT YARMOUTH IS A COMMISSION UNDER MGL, C49, SECTION 8 J, AND POSSIBLY DANIEL KNAPIK IS OUR LIAISON WITH THE ADA.

DENNIS IS LISTED AS A COMMITTEE. AS SUCH, THEY ARE VERY ACTIVE WITH PROGRAMS INSTITUTED ALONE OR WITH OTHER COMMITTEES THEY HAVE A VERY SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM IN THE SCHOOLS, CALLED "RESCUE AND JESSICA". IT IS FUNDED IN PART THROUGH AN EDUCATION GRANT WHICH CAN BE APPLIED FOR IN DECEMBER AND AWARDED IN JANUARY. GAIL RELATED THAT THEY HAD A BUDGET AND THAT WE COULD POSSIBLY GET FUNDS FROM HANDICAPPED PARKING.
AT THIS POINT, DANIEL KNAPIK, REVIEWED THE "CHARGE FOR THE DISABILITY COMMISSION". UNDER THE SECTION, GENERAL PURPOSE, HE NOTED THAT WE ARE ESTABLISHED UNDER GENERAL LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS, C40, SECTION 8J. SARAH O'REILLY, DIRECTOR, OF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICIAL TOWN EMPLOYEE, IS ASSIGNED TO OUR COMMITTEE AS REQUIRED. SHE WILL BE THE CONTACT PERSON FOR OUR COMMITTEE. KYLE PEDICINI IS AVAILABLE AS A TECHNICAL SUPPORT PERSON. ALSO MENTIONED, WERE PATRICIA ARMSTRONG, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES. QUESTION RAISED RE NOTIFYING THE STATE THAT YARMOUTH NOW HAS AN ACTIVE DISABILITY COMMISSION. DAN SAID HE WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT NOTICE.

UNDER SPECIFIC CHARGES, IT WAS NOTED THAT WE ARE TO COORDINATE WITH THE MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE ON DISABILITY (MOD) BUT DUE TO COVID-19, THINGS ARE IN A HOLDING PATTERN. QUESTION RAISED RE THE PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING, REVIEWING AND MKING DETERMINATIONS. OUR COMMISSION REPORTS TO THE TOWN OF YARMOUTH BOARD OF SELECTMEN. AS OF THIS WRITING, OUR CONTACT HAS BEEN WITH SELECTMAN, MARK FOREST.

MEMBERSHIP: ONE CAN BECOME A MEMBER BY INTERVIEW, ON LINE FORM, OR APPOINTED BY THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AND THEN SWORN IN BY THE TOWN CLERK, SUE REGAN.
QUESTION RAISED ON STATUS OF DREW KRAUSS'S ON LINE APPLICATION, AND DAN SAID HE WOULD ADDRESS THAT ISSUE. QUESTION ALSO RAISED RE JEFF COLBY'S STATUS. RESPONSE BY DAN KNAPIK DUE TO JEFF'S POSITION AS A TOWN EMPLOYEE HE COULD SIMPLY APPOINT HIM TO THE GROUP.
LENGTH OF TERMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN NEXT MEETING.

DAN SAID HE WOULD REVIEW THE CHARGE OF THE DISABILITY COMMISSION TO SEE IF ANY CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS: RECORDS OF MEETINGS, ANNUAL TOWN REPORT, FOUR MEETINGS A YEAR ARE REQUIRED.

OUR COMMISSION MEETS MONTHLY ON THE SECOND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH AT 2:00 pm AT THE TOWN OF YARMOUTH SENIOR CENTER.

QUESTION RAISED DO WE RECEIVE MONEY FOR OUR BUDGET FROM HANDICAP FEES.? DAN RESPONDED THAT A \$500.00 FINE IS CHARGED FOR FIRST FINE AND \$300.00 THEREAFTER. ALL OF IT COULD BE ASSIGNED TO OUR COMMISSION OR A PORTION THEREOF. DAN TO CHECK INTO THIS MATTER. WE NEED TO OPEN THE MEETING FOR NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS: DO I HEAR A NOMINATION? DAVE BOTTING ASKED ALLIE STROMINSKI, TEMPORARY CHAIR IF SHE WAS INTERESTED. HER REPLY THAT SHE IS MEDICALLY CHALLENGED AND CAN NOT TAKE IT. THERE WERE NO OTHER RESPONSES SO MOVED TO CALL FOR VICE CHAIR GAIL CHARETTE VOLUNTEERED. IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED ALL IN FAVOR. NOMINATION FOR CLERK/SECRETARY, EVELYN BEAL VOLUNTEERED ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. SO MOVED. CHAIR POSITION STILL OPEN.

AFTER DISCUSSION, DAVID BOTTING RELATED THAT AS HE IS CEO AND PRESIDENT OF: COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS, HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DO JUSTICE TO THE JOB. JODY WALKER ALSO IS UNABLE AND DREW DIDN'T FEEL AS IF HE COULD DO IT EITHER AFTER A LENGTHY PAUSE, GAIL SAID SHE WOULD BE MORE THAN WILLING TO BE SUPPORTIVE IF DREW WOULD TAKE CHAIR. DREW RESPONDED THAT HE WOULD TAKE CHAIR. SO MOVED ALL IN FAVOR. AYE

NEW BUSINESS:

THE SIDEWALK BETWEEN SEAFOOD SAM'S AND TOBY'S PIZZA NEEDS TO BE EVALUATED AS THE INCLINE ELEVATION AND SIDEWALK PAVEMENT IS UNEVEN AND POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS TO HANDICAP MOTORIZED OR BATTERY EQUIPMENT.

OTHER CONCERNS:

HOW TO INFORM PUBLIC OF OUR EXISTENCE?

SOME FORM OF A BROCHURE

USING MILESTONES AS A RESOURCE

NEED A CONTACT PERSON

TOWN WEBSITE

EMAIL ADDRESS

SARAH'S EMAIL AT Soreilly@yarmouth.ma.us

DAN'S KNAPIK IS. dnapik@yarmouth.ma.us

Next meeting: FRIDAY, AUGUST 14th AT 2:00 p.m. TYPE OF MEETING TO BE ANNOUNCED

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:35 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

EVELYN BEAL, CLERK