Westwood Commission on Disability

September 8, 2017

9:15-11:15am

50 Carby Street, Westwood,

Meeting called by:

Disability Commission

Type of meeting:

Regular open meeting

Facilitator:

Anne Berry-Goodfellow

Note taker:

Jean Barrett

Timekeeper:

Jean Barrett

Attendees:

Tom Barner, Jean Barrett, Anne Berry Goodfellow, MaryAnn Carty, Michelle Fiola-Reidy, Frannie MacQueen, Jette Meglan, Connie Rizoli, Mary Sethna, Chuck Taylor

Visitors:

Polly Attridge, Diana Martucci

Tom, Jean Michelle, Mary and Chuck were sworn in by Dottie Powers before the meeting.

Minutes

Agenda item:

Attendance and Approval of Minutes

Presenter:

Anne, MaryAnn

Discussion: Attendance was taken and a welcome to new members. Minutes were approved and a discussion as to how to get them onto the website with access for screen readers took place. Anne will forward State and Federal requirements to MaryAnn. Tom will check with a colleague who uses a screen reader to make sure they are accessible

Agenda item:

New Business: Goals for 2017-2018

Presenter:

All Members

Discussion:

Anne Berry Goodfellow welcomed our visitor and recapped last year’s accomplishments and set out ideas for this year’s work. We will be focused on fleshing out housing information and how to access it if possible. We will also be looking to put on ‘Caring for the Caregiver’ again this year. Anne noted that HESSCO’s Day of relaxation will take place on 9/28/17 and Soni Sayana will be joining them. She was a featured speaker at our ‘Caring for the Caregiver’ evening last spring. It was noted that housing ought to be addressed at transition time when dealing with a student on an IEP. The Transition Fair will be held at the College of the Holy Cross on November 4, 2017. Jean and Michelle attended this a few years ago and strongly recommend it. To educate parents of children on IEP’s about this important step, Diana offered her professional background and voiced her willingness to act as liaison with SEPAC. It was noted that Megan Kobold Brenk is now chairing the SEPAC and they are holding an open house 9/20/17. It was also noted with enthusiasm that she is using social media effectively and our hopes for a renewed and vibrant SEPAC are strong. WESTWOOD DAY will take place on 9/22-25/17 it was noted that there is no ‘mini townhall’ this year and thus the Commission will not have a presence there this year.

Agenda item:

Old Business: MBTA/ROUTE 128 Status

Presenter:

Anne, Connie

Discussion:

Connie will ask her husband to see if the MBTA/ROUTE 128 is still handicapped accessible and that all elevators to tracks are functioning. According to Jette’s husband at least the far track elevator /escalator was working.

Agenda item:

Old Business: SEPAC

Presenter:

Anne, Diana

Discussion:

Diana will coordinate with new chairperson of SEPAC Megan Kobold Brenk.

Agenda item:

Old Business: EMERGENCY PLANNING

Presenter:

Anne, MaryAnne

Discussion:

It was noted that there is a new planning committee for emergencies and no other info was available through the website.

Action items

Person responsible

Deadline

Contact Personal Housing Liaison

Tom Barner

ongoing

Discover official Definitions of Housing Levels

Jude O’Hara, Anne Berry Goodfellow

September

Discover Housing access pathway

Housing Committee

ongoing

Discover Pathway for Transition +22

Michelle

ongoing

Other Information

DATES FOR 2017-2018 MEETINGS

October 13, 2017 Housing Planning

November 17, 2017 Housing Presentation Discussion

January 12, 2018 Records and Spring Planning

February 9, 2018 Health Records/insurance access for parents

March 9, 2018 Transition Topic or Fair

April 13, 2018 TBD

May 11, 2018 TBD

June 8, 2018 TBD

Special notes: