Minutes of the July 15, 2014 Commission on Disability Meeting

Members Present: Tori Eklund, Chair
Hannah Coyle, Vice-Chair
Patricia Shaughnessy, ADA Coordinator
City Councilor Marianne LaBarge
Ruth McGrath, Secretary
Gaetane Fortin
James Winston

Members Absent: None

Members Excused: Michael Nagy
Daniel Langer

Recorder: Ruth E. McGrath

1. Tori Eklund, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. She announced the meeting was being recorded and videotaped. Member introductions followed.

2. Public Comment: None

3. Ruth McGrath asked for an amendment to paragraph 3, changing May 20, 2013 to May 20, 2014. City Councilor Marianne LaBarge made a motion to approve the June 17, 2014 minutes, seconded by Gay Fortin. Motion passed unanimously.

4. AGENDA ITEM: Guest Speaker- Carole Rossick
   Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
   
   Ms. Rossick gave us an overview of her agency. She brought assistive hearing devices for the members to try. City Councilor LaBarge brought up closed captioning problems. Ms. Rossick gave us her Commission website:
   www.mass.gov/mcdhh
Commission on Disability

5. AGENDA ITEM: Update on Handicap Parking in Florence. Patricia Shaughnessy, ADA Coordinator updated the COD that the handicapped sign is going up next Thursday. City Councilor LaBarge updated the status of the handicapped sign in front of the Bird’s store. City Council had a second reading at their last meeting.

6. AGENDA ITEM: Update on Benches Being Placed in the center of Florence. Patricia Shaughnessy, ADA Coordinator and City Councilor Marianne LaBarge gave an update. The Florence Business Association does not want the benches on the sidewalks. Councilor LaBarge made a motion that the COD send a letter to the Florence Business Association (by James Winston) and the Mayor. Ruth McGrath seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

7. AGENDA ITEM: Discussion on COD September meeting with a roundtable discussion and social. City Councilor LaBarge has contacted many cities. All members will bring dishes, similar to a very simple potluck. Ruth McGrath will coordinate the event.

8. AGENDA ITEM: Public Hearing September 15, 5-6:30 regarding a resolution on Vibrant Sidewalks. The reason for the Vibrant Sidewalks is to describe what the sidewalks are and should be all about.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Jim Winston announced that on September 12, 2014 there will be Eva Trager Memorial Induction Ceremony. Time of the event will be announced closer to the event.

At 6:03 a motion was made by James Winston to adjourn, seconded by Gaeten Fortin. Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting is September 16, 2014 at 5:00 pm. REMINDER: There is no meeting in August.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ruth E. McGrath, Secretary