



# COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

## Wilbraham, Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes of Thursday, January 17, 2019

Wilbraham Town Hall  
240 Springfield St.  
Wilbraham, MA 01095

Members in Attendance: Maureen James, Marylou Fabbo, Earl Way, Kate Glynn & Deborah Cook

Members Absent: Jean Courtney, Diane DaSilva, Barbara Harrington & Kate Barlow

Town Staff in Attendance: Lance Trevallion.

Guest to meeting: Miriam Siegel

Chairperson Marylou Fabbo called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Review of minutes from Thursday, December 6, 2018. Maureen James motioned to approve the minutes, it was seconded by Marylou Fabbo, all in favor.

### **Status of Commission Financial Account:**

Lance Trevallion reported the balance of the Commission's account is \$1,643.39. The amount increased from a parking ticket fine.

### **CPA Grant Projects:**

#### Children's Museum:

The work is virtually complete, with only a couple smaller tasks remaining, such as gutters on the rear of the building. They are waiting for some invoices to be received however there may be a surplus of funds, which will be returned to Community Preservation once all work is complete and paid for. The museum is open and considering purchasing the empty lot for sale next door. This parcel would be used as a parking lot for the museum. Should the museum wish to move forward with this, they will put forth a proposal at town meeting.

#### Meeting House

An application has been submitted for Community Preservation funds to complete a study to determine how handicap access can be created in the historic building. The funds will be used to have an architect and surveyor review the property and create plans for the access. After those plans are created, the project would be reviewed again by Community Preservation for further funding.

#### Fountain Park

Lance Trevallion prepared an application for funds to make concerts and events at Fountain Park handicap accessible. This project includes the proposed installation of handicap parking signs in the parking area, as well as a hard-surfaced pathway from the parking area leading to another hard-surfaced area measuring 24 by 24 feet. The plan may be amended to install an enlarged hard-surfaced walkway extending from the parking lot toward the gazebo, which will allow for pedestrian travel from the parking lot as well as locations for walkers, wheelchairs, etc. to be stationary during events. The final design will be dependent upon the budget available. If approved, the work could begin in early spring.

## **Fundraising**

Marylou Fabbo will review the requirements for the Commission on Disability to create a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

Lance Trevallion made inquiries with the Town's accountant regarding establishing a gift account for the Commission. Based upon her discussions with the Commonwealth's Attorney General's office it was decided that such an account would not be a good option for the Commission to obtain and distribute charitable funds for purposes such as a scholarship.

Miriam Siegel joined the meeting at 5:00 p.m. She is one of the organizers of the Cup to Pint Fun Run in Wilbraham. The race was established several years ago for the purpose of raising money for local charities. Each year, the combination trail/road race begins at The Village Store and Cafe on Main Street and finishes at the Daily Pint on Boston Road. This year's race will take place the afternoon of June 8, 2019.

After explaining the origins and purpose of the race, Mrs. Siegel provided information on how the race is organized and executed. The race is organized by volunteers, led by Mrs. Siegel and her husband, P.J. Cambo. The volunteers obtain commitments by sponsors for either tangibles for race day (i.e. - a beer company donates a keg for after the race) or funding. Sponsors are recognized in race materials including signage. Traditionally, monies raised through sponsorships offset the costs of the race such as insurance and t-shirts provided to registrants.

Ms. Siegel and Mr. Cambo were approached by the Friends of Recreation and the Commission on Disability to be considered as beneficiaries of the charitable fundraising. The Commission expressed interest in using the funds for a possible scholarship to benefit a disabled student in the Hampden Wilbraham Regional School District (HWRSD). The Commission also discussed possibly creating a partnership with the Friends of Recreation to utilize the monies raised to make Recreation activities and programs handicap accessible, such as the installation of hard-surface pathways at outside venues or the purchasing of equipment for disabled persons to use to enable them to participate in programs. Additional suggestions for partnership include creating a scholarship for a disabled student that has also participated in Recreation programs or a scholarship to waive registration fees for disabled persons who wish to participate in Recreation programs.

Mrs. Siegel indicated that the race course is not handicap accessible and a discussion was had as to how to possibly create an alternate course that would be accessible.

Ultimately, the race organizers would like to make a firm decision regarding the charity/charities benefiting from the race by early February. The Commission advised Mrs. Siegel that they

would discuss the matter further. It was very generous of her to appear at this meeting, provide a wealth of information regarding the event, and consider involving the Commission in the race. The Commission thanked Mrs. Siegel and she departed the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

All members present indicated that they would like to move forward with fundraising through the Cup to Pint Fun Run.

**Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours Before Meeting:**

None

**Next Public Meetings:**

Thursday, February 21st, 2019, 4:30 p.m., Children's Museum, 678 Main Street, Wilbraham

Thursday, March 28, 2019, 4:30 p.m., Wilbraham Fire Department, 2770 Boston Road, Wilbraham

Thursday, April 25, 2019, 4:30 p.m., Town Hall, 240 Springfield Street, Wilbraham

Thursday, May 23, 2019, 4:30 p.m., Town Hall, 240 Springfield Street, Wilbraham

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Kate Glynn. Seconded by Maureen James. All in Favor.  
Meeting Adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Maureen James.

Approved 2/21/19