

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
Thursday, June 3, 2010
TOWN HALL DOWNSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
4:00 PM**

Commission Members Present: Denise Rueger (Chair)
Noah Parsons (Vice Chair)
Don Perry
Judy Steindler
Dave Wells [with the assistance of Nan
Wells] (Clerk)

Sheffield Town Administrator: Joe Kellogg (dropped by)

Absent: Laura Grunfeld
Maryann Hyatt

Vice Chair Parsons called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM
Chair Rueger arrived to continue chairing meeting until it became late and then
Parsons continued to chair meeting

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Amended *Minutes of the Commission on Disabilities for May 6, 2010 were moved to be approved by Perry, seconded by Steindler, and unanimously approved as written.*

Copies of the Minutes to be E-Mailed to Jack Pollitt

PARSONS SHARED WITH THE COMMISSION 2 WORTHWHILE PROGRAMS ON THE INTERNET HE FOUND: "So You Think You Can Dance," and a You-Tube piece entitled "FingerSpellers (a comedy)."

RSVP LETTER TO NORMALYN POWERS, DIRECTOR WAS EDITED: RSVP letter was edited slightly and has been resent with a corrected mailing address.

THE SHEFFIELD COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES' SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NEW SECTION (HELPING SENIORS/PROVIDERS ACCESS DISABILITY HELP LINES) FOR THE "RSVP RESOURCE CALENDAR FOR 2011" WAS SHARED BY WELLS: More work still needs to be done on the entries before the August deadline.

WELLS/NAN SHARED WITH THE COMMITTEE WORK SHE HAS PERSONALLY DONE ON HER OWN, NOT CONNECTED WITH THE COMMISSIONS' NEW CATEGORY, TO UPDATE THE GENERAL PORTION OF THE "2011 RESOURCE CALENDAR" WITH JACKIE DELLERT AFTER STEINDLER MENTIONED THAT SHE

HAD NOTICED THAT THE GREAT BARRINGTON RITE AIDE PHARMACIES WERE NOT INCLUDED: Steindler submitted the name of her audiologist (the only one she is aware of in this area)

PARSONS UPDATED THE COMMISSION ON THE LAND TRUST PROJECT:
At this time no new updates to share.

PARSONS UPDATED THE COMMISSION ON THE CURB CUTS, SIDEWALK, CROSSWALK WALK TAKEN THIS PAST WED., JUNE 2 WITH HIMSELF, PERRY, ADMINISTRATOR KELLOGG, CHIEF McGARRY, ED LORD (SHEFFIELD TOWN HIGHWAY COMMISSION), AND 2 STATE DOT SUPERVISORS.

DISCUSSION FOLLOWED SURROUNDING INITIAL DOT SUGGESTIONS:

- 1.) 3 crosswalks
(a. Historical Society, b. Church, and c. just North of the current Library Rte. 7 crossing/Telephone Company building)
- 2.) State DOT will do the survey
- 3.) State DOT will draw up a complete plan and present it to the Commission
- 4.) Town will develop sidewalks on East side of the Rte. 7 corridor
- 5.) Over road blinking light – Mobil Station/Stone Store
- 6.) Much discussion followed with the DOT suggestion of doing away with the crosswalk from Wheeler Taylor to the town center, center island

ADMINISTRATOR KELLOGG STOPPED BY THE MEETING IN PROGRESS TO SOLIDIFY THE TIME/DATE FOR THE COMMISSION'S SCHEDULED WALK FOR MONDAY, JUNE 7 @ 6:30 PM WITH THE SHEFFIELD SELECTMEN:

DISCUSSION FOLLOWED REGARDING THE TOWN KEEPING THE SIDEWALKS ACCESSIBLE THROUGHOUT THE WINTER:

DISCUSSION FOLLOWED WHEN WOULD BE A TIMELY POINT TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE STATE DOT THE DETERIORATING NORTH OF TOWN SIDEWALK GOING NORTH TOWARD THE GRANGE ... IN SOME PLACES IT TOTALLY DISAPPEARS:

THE NEED TO RE-GRADE THE FRONT RAMP TO THE SHEFFIELD TOWN HALL MUST BE BROUGHT UP ON THE MONDAY EVENING WALK WITH THE SHEFFIELD TOWN SELECTMEN:

EVIDENTALLY THE STATE DOT WILL RECEIVE A NEW CONTRACT FOR FEDERAL MONEY IN 2013 FOR RESURFACING SHEFFIELD RTE. 7:

DISCUSSION FOLLOWED CONCERNING HOW TO FIND MORE WAYS FOR THE SHEFFIELD COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES TO INTERACT WITH THE COMMUNITY TO MEET WITH THEM FACE TO FACE AND HEAR THEIR CONCERNS: Suggestions were made to perhaps set up a table at regular times in the Sheffield Library, or in front of the Post Office, or the Senior Center to make this Commission more responsive and accessible to the needs of the Community. Also considered was setting aside a time in the Fall to meet with the Community at the Sheffield Library and serve punch and cookies as part of this accessibility.

WELLS RE REMINDED THE GROUP THAT WE NEED TO RESPOND TO SUGGESTIONS MADE BY SHEFFIELD RESIDENTS AND LET THEM KNOW THE PROGRESS/RESULT OF THE SUGGESTION(S) SHARED. IF WE WANT CITIZENS TO BE INVOLVED, THEY HAVE TO KNOW THAT WE ARE LISTENING AND THAT WE WILL TRY TO GIVE THEIR SUGGESTIONS TO THE PROPER AVENUE TO GET HEARD/CONSIDERED: Parsons volunteered to write a letter to the Town Administrator, Joe Kellogg regarding Dale Alden's suggestion to the census questionnaire for a locked box to be placed Outside the Town Hall for correspondence.

THE COMMISSION REMINDED ITSELF THAT WE NEED TO GET ALL OUR SUGGESTIONS IN TO THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AND ASS'T TOWN ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE SHEFFIELD COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES' FRONT PAGE: For the time being, we have gathered all the information we want to have included. We just need to turn it over for the Town web master.

STEINDLER USED THE SMALL ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICE, LOANED TO SHEFFIELD FOR A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME BY THE PITTSFIELD CEREBRAL PALSY ORGANIZATION, FOR THE WHOLE COMMISSION MEETING AND FOUND IT TO BE A VERY HELPFUL ASSETT:

Perry moved to adjourn this meeting, seconded by Wells, and unanimously so approved.

Parsons adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Dave Wells [assisted by Nan Wells

Commission on Disabilities' Minutes
June 3, 2010
Page 3 of 3