

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
Thursday, June 17, 2010
SHEFFIELD TOWN HALL DOWNSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
4:00 PM**

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

Visitor: Felecie Joyce, Town Clerk

Absent: Laura Grunfeld
Maryann Hyatt
Don Perry

Chair Rueger called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the Commission on Disabilities for June 3, 2010 were moved to be approved by Steindler, seconded by Parsons, after Steindler corrected on page 2 a deletion of the "s" on Audiologist – Sharon Ear"[s]" and a deletion of the "t" on Dr. Glenn Datres "[t]" and then unanimously approved as written.

May 20, 2010 Commission minutes taken by Grunfeld still need to be approved and will be submitted for approval on Grunfeld's return.

A Copy of the Minutes will be E-Mailed to Jack Pollitt

JOYCE STOPPED BY WITH 2 COPIES OF JUNE 3, 2010 COMMISSION MINUTES AND THEN ASKED IF SHE COULD MAKE A SUGGESTION FOR FOLLOWING COMMISSION MINUTES: Joyce suggested that over time our minutes would take up a lot of space in the historical records she must keep. Her suggestion, after discussion, was to use the Commission on Disability heading ONLY on the 1st page and perhaps make the print a little bit smaller in the body of the minutes. Rueger moved that the Commission use the suggestions made by Joyce, 2nd ed by Wells, and unanimously approved.

WELLS UPDATED COMMISSION ON MONIES SPENT: 2 – business envelopes and postage (\$1.00) and 1 ream cheap Staples copy paper (\$3.99 plus tax).

RUEGER SHARED A LETTER WE RECEIVED FROM MASSACHUSETTS

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MASSDOT) PETER NILES P.E.,
DISTRICT HIGHWAY DIRECTOR REGARDING ACCESSIBILITY ISSUES
AT 4 CROSSWALKS ON ROUTE 7 IN SHEFFIELD IN THE VICINITY OF
THE VILLAGE GREEN:**

**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 SUPERVISOR), AND 2 STATE DOT
SUPERVISORS.** (Interestingly enough Parsons noticed that once he was in the
wheelchair he didn't seem to exist and so coincidentally his name is left off the
letter sent to us by MassDOT naming who went on the walk.)

INITIAL MASSDOT SUGGESTIONS:

- 1.) 4 crosswalks
- 2.) State DOT did 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 hooded blinking light – Mobil Station/Stone Store

- 6.) Work to commence in 2013 when MassDOT receives new monies /
contracts are re-negotiated.

**PARSONS SHARED WITH THE COMMISSION THAT HE THOUGHT IT
WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO DO A PHOTO SHOOT OF HIM IN A
WHEELCHAIR AND WATCHING HOW DIFFICULT IT WOULD BE TO
NAVIGATE THE MOBIL STATION/STONE STORE, AND TO THE
SHEFFIELD CENTER STORES' TRAFFIC:** Wells/Dave & Nan said they would
help him do the video survey.

**WELLS ASKED STEINDLER IF SHE WOULD ASK JACK POLLITT IF HE
HAS DISABILITY CONTACTS THAT HE PERSONALLY FOUND, THAT HE
WOULD BE WILLING TO SHARE WITH THE COMMISSION:**

**WELLS REMINDED THE COMMISSION THAT NEW OFFICERS SHOULD BE
ELECTED AT OUR JULY 1, 2010 MEETING:**

**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'
WEB SITE 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.

Wells will have a Web site Front Page set up ready to be submitted to Kellogg and LaBombard, after Commission review and suggestions, at the next meeting of July 1.

RUEGER SHARED WITH THE COMMISSION THAT SHE HAD VIEWED A CEREBRAL PALSY COMEDY VIDEO ON YOU-TUBE: Rueger said she would E-Mail us the link.

WELLS SUGGESTED THE COMMISSION SHOULD PROBABLY GET A COMMISSION UPDATE ARTICLE OFF TO THE *SHEFFIELD TIMES*: Maybe Grunfeld will be willing to write a Commission progress update for the *Sheffield Times*.

STEINDLER CONTINUED TO USE 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 CONTINUES TO FIND IT VERY HELPFUL: Steindler also informed the Commission that Sheffield Town Administrator, Joe Kellogg would like to purchase a \$1,000 unit that would accommodate 10 persons to listen with assistance. The one he is interested in is, also, wire-less which would allow those using it to not be limited in proximity to the unit by wire.

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

Rueger adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Dave Wells [assisted by Nan Wells]