

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD  
COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES  
Friday, October 21, 2011  
Sheffield Town Hall Downstairs  
3:30 PM**

Commission Members Present: Laura Grunfeld Interim Chair  
Dave Wells [with the assistance of Nan Wells] (clerk)  
Claudia Martin

Visitors: Berkshire Meadows' Presenters, Pam Warwick and  
Kathy Green  
Kolburne Therapeutic Communities' Presenter:  
Jonathan Hirsch  
Hillcrest Educational Centers' Presenter: Tim

Gallagher

Eagleton School Presenter: Leo Rosa  
Kathy Nourse

Interim Chair Grunfeld met with the presenters before the C.O.D. meeting opened to go over the afternoon presentation format.

Interim Chair Grunfeld called the C.O.D. meeting open at 3:30 PM

**THE MEETING OPENED WITH THIS MONTH'S C.O.D. SPEAKER SERIES:** "A Sampling of Therapeutic Residential Special Education Programs in South County." This month's Speaker Series was a panel of 5 speakers representing 4 South County residential special education facilities: Berkshire Meadows' Presenters, Pam Warwick and Kathy Green; Kolburne Therapeutic Communities' Presenter: Jonathan Hirsch; Hillcrest Educational Centers' Presenter: Tim Gallagher; and Eagleton School Presenter: Leo Rosa. Each explained their programs, the clients they serve, and programs and services which they offer, and where they have been able to interface with South County mainstreamed students and the South County communities. The panel produced an extremely informative program. It was such a meaningful panel of information that the speakers were asked if they would be willing to be presenters again for a bigger audience in the future. The answer was absolutely "Yes."

Light refreshments were served.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes of the Commission on Disabilities for September 16, 2011 were moved to be approved by Martin, seconded by Grunfeld, and unanimously approved as written.

**DISCUSSION AND EVALUATION OF THE C.O.D. SPEAKER SERIES CONTINUED:** After much discussion on how the Sheffield Commission on Disabilities could reach a bigger audience for the Speaker Series, Martin suggested that the Commission might have more flexibility to reach a bigger audience if the Speaker Series was not connected to the C.O.D. meetings. After more discussion, Martin moved that the C.O.D. Speaker Series be a separate entity and not connected to the C.O.D. meeting. Wells seconded her motion and it was unanimously so approved.

**NEXT SPEAKER SERIES:** Our next Speaker Series is already in place for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month luncheon in January 2012 at the Senior Center. Dawn Matthews of United Cerebral Palsy will be the presenter for that occasion.

**THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING WILL BE:** November 18, 2011 at 3:30 PM at the Sheffield Bushnell-Sage Library, downstairs meeting room.

**AGENDA:**

1. November 18, 2011 C.O.D. meetings will focus on how to reach people in Sheffield with Disabilities
2. Reports
3. Speaker Series continuing evaluation:
  - a.) the next topic and suggestions for speaker(s) for April 2012 Speaker Series
  - b.) audience/location for the presentation
4. Other business as necessary

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

Grunfeld adjourned the meeting at 6:10 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Dave Wells [assisted by Nan Wells] Clerk