



Town of Sheffield
Commission on Disabilities
Town Hall – 21 Depot Square
P.O. Box 325
Sheffield, Massachusetts 01257



Friday, August 24, 2018
Bushnell Sage Library, Upstairs Meeting Room
Meeting officially opened at 10:38 AM

Commission Members

Present: Laura Grunfeld, Chair
Dale Alden
Priscilla Rueger
Rick Brown
Gail Mullen
Guests: Larry Silver

- 1.) Approval of July 20, 2018 Minutes:** By consensus, approval is postponed, as the minutes are not yet complete.
- 2.) Update: Sheffield Fair Planning:** Mullen will be able to help with set up of the COD booth but may not be able to stay. Alden and Mullen will arrive at 10:30AM. Brown is available before noon and after 1:30PM. Rueger will come at 1:00PM. Alden and Mullen will bring the boxes of resources they have in storage. Grunfeld will be there at 9AM to prepare for the accessible parking operations and will remain with parking through the day.
- 3.) Update: Sidewalk/Complete Streets.** Rueger stated that when parking in the new accessible parking spaces at Town Hall she found that there is not enough space for the driver to exit the vehicle. Alden stated that a Town staff person has attended Complete Streets training as step one of the grant application process. By consensus, it was agreed that the COD will devote the entirety of the September 21 meeting to work on Complete Streets recommendations. Brown will make inquiries with a former student at the Conway School to see if this is an area of study at the school. They may be able to provide technical assistance regarding Complete Streets.
- 4.) Update: Sheffield Times Article:** Grunfeld submitted a paragraph for inclusion in Sheffield Fair issue.
- 5.) Update: H.R. 620 Letter:** Brown talked with staff in U.S. Senator Markey's office. They do not expect any immediate action regarding the H.R. 620 bill and their disability specialist will contact Brown if there is any immanent action.
- 6.) Variance Application:** Grunfeld and Mullen have not had an opportunity to meet about this topic.
- 7.) AARP Community Challenges Grant:** Rueger has not had a chance to prepare a report on this topic.

8.) **Mitigation Planning Handbook Meeting:** Alden attended a meeting about Hazard Mitigation in Sheffield. He gave input about possible Ashley Falls flooding areas.

9.) **Conflict of Interest Training:** Alden attended and represented the COD at the training. He reported on the meeting and provided links to training materials.

10.) **Evacuation Sled Training:** Grunfeld emailed LaBombard to ask if the COD could host an evacuation sled training in the fall.

11.) **Members' Items:** Grunfeld reported that Great Barrington resident Julie Berger contacted the COD about wanting to start a COD in Great Barrington. She is also a founding member of a Southern Berkshire group for people with disabilities. We wish them well and are available to assist. / Alden presented a health information form that would be helpful for people to post in their homes for EMTs. Brown says he will work on a nicer presentation of this information, along with instructions, to be handed out at the Fair. / Karen Lindquist, Bushnell Sage Library Director, showed us a recently purchased book, "The Complete Resources Guide for People With Disabilities." Brown suggested that the Library send a notice in their newsletter about the acquisition of this book.

12.) **Items for next meeting's agenda:** The September 21 meeting will focus entirely on the Complete Streets recommendations and approval of the July and August minutes.

13.) **Date, time, place for next meeting.** Sept 21, 10:30AM, at the Bushnell Sage Library.

14.) **Communications.** There were none.

15.) **Meeting Paused:** At 11:52AM the meeting was paused and COD members Rueger, Brown, Alden, and Grunfeld reconvened at the Town Hall shortly after. Mullen left the meeting at this time.

16.) **Town Hall Survey:** COD members met at the Town Hall and discussed the parking layout. Questions were raised and will be discussed at the next meeting. Rueger left the meeting after this segment of the meeting.

17.) **Town Park Survey:** COD members Brown, Alden, and Grunfeld met at the Town Park to take a look at the newly constructed playground. Questions were raised and will be discussed at a later date.

18.) **Adjournment:** *Alden moved to close the meeting. Brown seconded the motion.* The meeting was adjourned at about 1:15PM.

Respectfully submitted:



Laura Grunfeld
Chair, Commission on Disabilities