

AGAWAM DISABILITY COMMISSION AGENDA

Tuesday, January 9, 2018 – 4:00PM

Agawam Senior Center
954 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001
Tel# 413-821-0605

1. Meeting called to order at 3:54 PM.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
 - a. Present: Frank Mazzei, Deb Trudeau, JoAnn Balakier, Michael Squindo
 - b. Excused: Jean Carter
4. Recognition of Visitors
 - a. Mario Bonavita
5. Approval of Minutes: November 14, 2017
 - a. Motioned by Deb Trudeau, Second by JoAnn Balakier, Unanimous approval
6. Treasurer / Financial Report - \$3,570.22 was balance as of 1/9/2018
7. Chairperson's Report
 - a. No updates re: Stavros meeting
 - b. Frank noted that he met with Castle Hill re: wheelchair access at their meeting house and mail house. A plan has been created to make both these locations wheelchair accessible beginning with the Mail House.
 - c. Frank noted Governor Baker increased handicap parking spot violations to \$500 for the first offense and \$1,000 for the subsequent offenses.
8. Committee Reports –
 - a. Correspondence
 - i. No update at this time
 - b. Team meeting discussion
 - i. No update at this time
 - a. Grants
 - i. Frank noted that Castle Hill may be applying for some grants in the future
 - b. Sidewalks
 - i. No updates at this time
 - c. Building

- i. Frank noted that the snow removal at the senior center was not sufficient for handicap parking needs. Due to the snow taking up portions of non-handicap parking spots, individuals were parking partially in the handicap spots.
- ii. Michael will send an e-mail to DPW requesting that they address this concern.

d. Parking/ Ticketing

- i. No update at this time

e. Public Relations (PR)

- i. Deb found in going through commissions records, the commission had published a notice in the local paper at some point in the past, and thought it may be beneficial to do this again. Deb agreed to take on public relations for the commission.
- ii. A question was raised about the ability for the Disability Commission to correspond via e-mail to approve or change notices that would be sent to the public.

- 1. The concern is that it could violate Open Meeting Law. Michael will follow up with the appropriate departments in town to find out if this question can be answered.

f. Playgrounds/ CPA/ Parks & Rec./ Schools

- i. No updates at this time.

9. Old Business

- a. Michael reminded everyone that the Disability commission minutes and agendas are posted online as they are posted and approved. To the extent available Michael is also working on getting previous agendas and minutes posted online.
- b. Frank is having discussions with Jeff Dougan from Mass Office on Disability re: scheduling a training in the early spring. It is likely going to be near the end of March beginning of April.
 - i. The commission will likely pick up the tab for the cost of this training including lunch for all the participants, but an official decision has to be made by the commission before funds can be expensed.
 - ii. The two locations being looked at currently are the Veteran's Hall at the Senior Center and, as a backup, the Legion Building. This event will be a 2 day training.

10. New Business

- a. Frank asked per Jean about the ability for everyone to change the meeting day from the 2nd Tuesday to the 2nd Wednesday of every month.
 - i. Motion made by Deb, seconded by JoAnn, unanimous agreement to move the meeting to the 2nd Wednesday of every month to accommodate the needs of all the members on the commission.

11. . Next Meeting- February 14, 2018

12. Adjourn

- a. Meeting adjourned at 4:28 PM