

approved 9/26/18

## Fairhaven Commission on Disability

## Meeting Minutes June 13, 2018

*Present:* Charlie Murphy, Anne Silvia, Diane Rocha, Ronnie Medina, Mark Rees, Donna Lavallee, Maria Walker, Joseph Borelli, and Marcus Ferro

*Absent:* Trina Bigham, Waldemar DeOliviera, Maria DeOliviera

### I. OPEN MEETING

Charlie opened the meeting @ 6:52 pm.

### II. REVIEW OF LAST MEETING MINUTES (April 25, 2018)

Ann motioned to accept the minutes, Marcus seconded, all voted in favor. The minutes from April 25, 2018 were accepted.

### III. TREASURER'S REPORT

Our current budget is at \$ 900. Copies of the Fairhaven's ADA plan from 1994 have been sent home to all commission member, the commission will cover the cost of copy and postage.

### IV. TOWN INFORMATION

Mark had to leave early due to conflicting meetings.

The town has hired a new Director of Cable Access Channel 18, Derek Frates. All commission meetings will now be filmed and posted on the town website. Today's meeting was the first to be filmed, no previous notice was given to the Commission.

### V. OLD BUSINESS

For violation of use of handicap parking spots (no license plate or plaque), the town now fines \$ 100. If misuse is noticed, the Fairhaven Police Department should be contacted.

Anne has contacted Val and Maria DeOliviera, and they have both chosen to step down from the Commission. Persons interested in participating on the Commission can send a letter to the Board of Selectmen.

### VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Representative from SERTA was expected, but did not attend. Donna had invited a neighbor to come to the meeting to tell his story in regards to transportation and snow removal, but declined to enter the meeting when he became aware of it being filmed. A new invitation will be sent out to SERTA and the superintendent for our next meeting in September together with the Board of Public Works.

2. Robin Putnam from the office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulations has reached out to offer a presentation on a variety of topics, offered by their office. Charlie will reach out and invite her to come to our meeting on September 12.

MOD has reached out to gather information on updated e-mail addresses from all local commissions. Charlie will contact them.

Charlie forwards all MOD notifications, which are now sent to his private e-mail. Suggestion: an e-mail address for the Commission is set up under [www.fairhaven-ma.gov](http://www.fairhaven-ma.gov). Charlie will reach out to the Town Administrator to ask about this.

3. a) Ann mentioned that a new *sign language class* will be offered this fall, possibly for beginners. A new teacher will lead the class and the cost is \$ 400. Dianne motioned to approve the cost, Donna seconded, all voted in favor.

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b) Ann mentioned that the Fairhaven Council on Aging (CoA) is collaborating with Acushnet and New Bedford CoA to offer *"The Purple Table"* in this area. *"The Purple Table"* is initiated by the Alzheimer Association; they train restaurant staff on helpful hints for guests with Alzheimer's. The restaurants sign up to offer 1 night/month where their venue is adjusted to the needs of guests with Alzheimer's and their families. The restaurants pay a yearly fee to be on the list. Ann has more information. *"The Purple Table"* is starting to take off in Brockton and locations closer to Boston.

c) Ann mentioned that Community Nurse & Hospice Care in Fairhaven has been *educating business in the area on Alzheimer*, for them to more comfortably accommodate all customers.

d) On June 20<sup>th</sup>, the Sheriff's Department will hold a presentation, *"Until help arrives"* at the Fairhaven Senior Center, 6-8 pm. Around 30 guests have already signed up to participate.

e) Ann mentioned that the CoA will offer a *shuttle for residents* of the Housing Authority to the celebrations on 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Interested can contact Ann or the CoA to make a reservation.

f) The Council on Aging plans to initiate a *Memory Café* in the library on Tuesdays as part of a grant program. The program will run for 1 ½ hour for caregivers and care recipients together. The CoA hope to start the program in September.

**VII. THE NEXT MEETING** will be held on September 12, 2018 @ 6.308 at the Fairhaven Senior Center.

#### **VIII. STATUS ON DISABILITY ISSUES IN TOWN**

Marcus asked how we move forward with updating the ADA compliance plan for Fairhaven. Mark will provide more information at our next meeting.

#### **IX. CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNEMNT**

No other business to discuss. Marcus motioned to adjourn, Ronnie seconded. All voted in favor.  
Meeting adjourned @ 7:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maria Walker