

**Foxborough Commission on Disability  
Minutes of September 19, 2012**

**Members Present:**

Sue Collins, Cindy Curran, Charlie Hobbs, Tony Williams, Margaret Chaisson, Bill Casbarra

**Guests:** Sharon Wason, Dan Snyder, Intern and Sheri Barrett

**Discussion of Foxborough Master Plan**

**Sharon Wason** introduced Dan Snyder, an intern, who is complying information for the Master Plan. Sharon distributed information such as a “Medwheels” brochure from GATRA describing long distance medical transportation. We were given a list of Service and Contact numbers for Mass Health Transportation which includes Kiesling Transit that provides Dial-a-Ride and Long Distance Medical service for Seniors and people with disabilities. If you are disabled, you need to call a cab to take you to Shaw’s in Sharon or Walpole where you can connect with additional transportation. The Town of Foxboro provides shuttles to the Mansfield train station. This information will be posted on the Town of Foxborough website. The residents of our town who are disabled need to have access to transportation. Sharon informed us that 50 surveys have been sent back to her. The numbers are disappointing but the surveys are very detailed which is very helpful.

**Minutes**

Motion to accept Minutes of July 18, 2012 made by Cindy, second by Tony; motion passed.

**Discussion of Candidates for the Opening on the Commission**

**Sue introduced Sheri Barrett**, an applicant for the opening on our Commission, who provided us with an impressive resume. We would be very fortunate to have Sheri as a member. We also received an application from **Patricia Flowers-Elovitz**. Sue believes that we are limited to 7 members on the Commission because we were formed by an Article presented at an Annual Town Meeting. Our By-Laws also have 7 as the number of members of the board. Cindy suggested if we can change the wording of our By-Laws to state that we will “have a minimum of 7 members”, that would allow us to have 7 or more members. **Bill will ask the Selectmen if this is possible.** Sue will contact Patricia and see if she can come in for an interview on September 27, October 3 or some other

date. When Sue gets a date from Patricia, she will then contact members of the Commission. If anyone expresses a willingness to work on the Commission we should do all we can to accommodate them.

### **Cable Show Update**

Margaret, Tony and Bill thought the taping of the show was great practice. Bill did a great job. Tony felt uncomfortable and was distracted by many factors. It was agreed that a title and an introduction to the show is needed. Not only problems are to be presented but solutions need to be stated. Bob Hickey is interested in doing a show on Foxboro Cable Access. Perhaps he can interview Tony and Bill. Also, Margaret is aware that another person is interested in making a show about issues for people who are disabled. She would be a terrific resource, providing ideas and guests. Tony, Bill and Margaret agreed to meet on Thursday, September 27 to work on a segment.

### **Accessible Parking Signs**

Many of the Commission do not like signs that are entitled “Handicapped Parking”. Is there a possibility that the signs could be “Accessible Parking” or is that too vague? Van Accessible parking places with stripes next to the spot are frequently used as a parking place by inconsiderate drivers. Is there a booklet that could be found about this issue? Tony stated that our Commission should be more visible. Sheri said she had never heard of us until the small article in the Foxboro Reporter. Next Founders Day, many expressed interest in having a booth on the Booth field. Margaret expressed interest in having a program about children or adults living with a disability. Sue suggested a program entitled “Kids on the Block” that have large puppets that show a disability and there is a script to follow.

### **Brochure**

**Sue** produced illustrations for the cover of the brochure. Everyone agreed the international symbol of a person in a wheelchair is instantly recognizable. **Margaret** added information and color. **Bill** and Margaret will edit the brochure. Bill will get it printed on glossy paper. Sue will contact Ellen Pillsbury and get students from the high school to do the folding.

### **Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn made by Cindy, second by Charlie; motion passed.

**Next Meeting: November 14, 2012, Wednesday at 3 PM at Town Hall.**

