



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Minutes 03-17-2010

MEETING MINUTES

March 17, 2010

Members Present: Barbara Cutler, Janice Dallas, Kerrie Fallon, Susan James,
Maureen St. Hilaire

Members Absent: Lin Baker, John Bean, and Barbara Jones

Others: Jane Howard, Vision 2020 Standing Committee
Greg Ames, Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission
Miriam Stein, Diversity Task Group
Heidi Hample, Disability Advocate

Diversity Career Fair

Greg Ames said that 21 employers have agreed to participate in the Career Fair. Greg said that these employers are from health care, financial, retail and non-profit organizations. Greg said that he has been outreaching the Career Fair to agencies that work with Mass. Rehabilitation, career one stop centers, on job based web sites, the Cambridge Chronicle, cable access stations and Craigs List. Greg said that the Federal Government has schedule A hiring which are jobs that are set-aside for persons with disabilities. Jane Howard discussed the sign stands that were prepared with the help of the Boy Scouts and her husband Peter Howard. The Disability Commission agreed to send a letter of appreciation to the Boy Scouts. Jane said that she has requested that a strand of lights be installed from the balcony. Miriam requested that the a press release be sent to the Arlington Advocate regarding the Career Fair, also Miriam requested that the Career Fair notice be placed on the Town's web site. Jack Jones said that he would send a press release to the Arlington Advocate and place a notice on the Town's web site. Gregg said that at the Career Fair assistance would be needed to direct consumers within the auditorium. Miriam said that two volunteers from the Diversity Task Group would assist during the Career fair. Jack Jones said that Brian Sullivan, Town Manager has agreed to provide a limited number of parking placards for employers to use at the Career Fair. The parking placards will be given out on a first come basis. Maureen St. Hilaire said that she would contact Stop & Shop about donating bottles of water. Greg said that last year he received excellent feed back from employers that attended the Career Fair.

Commission on Disability Regional Meeting

Barbara Cutler said that Robyn Powell from the Disability Policy Consortium has held other similar regional meetings across the

State over the past year. Robyn has offered to assist with the Arlington meeting.

State House Legislative Reception

Barbara Cutler said that her son Rob and Jack Jones attended the legislative reception which was held at the Grand Staircase of the State House on March 3rd. Jack Jones said that the theme this year was Shaping 21st Century Disability Policy – The Americans with Disability Act 20 Years and Counting. Barbara said that the Massachusetts Development Disabilities Council and the ARC of Massachusetts hosted the legislative Reception. Barbara said that the DD Council named Senate President Theresa Murray Legislator of the Year and that Representative Tom Sannicandro was named the ARC Legislator of the Year. Barbara said that in addition to recognizing outstanding legislators, the event is an occasion for hearing personal testimonies and learning about key bills and budget items affecting individuals with disabilities and their families.

Barbara Cutler mentioned her concern regarding the popularity of charter schools.

Bus Shelters

Jack Jones said that at the April 12, 2010 Selectmen's Meeting the Selectmen would be discussing bus shelters. The Selectmen requested the involvement of the Disability Commission in decisions made regarding the bus shelters. Jack said that a representative from the MBTA would be out to the Town over the next few months to inform interested groups about the shelters.

CDBG Funding

Jack Jones said that entering FY 2010 the Commission had a carry over of \$107,750.37. Added to this amount was \$65,000.00 for FY 2010. This increased the total available during FY 2010 to \$172,750.37 During FY 2010 34 curb cut ramps were installed by GR Construction at a cost of \$74,642.87 this resulted in an unexpended balance of \$98,107.50. Jack said that for FY 2011 the Commission has requested \$150,000 the preliminary allocation of the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen is \$75,000. Jack Jones mentioned that to install a square yard of concrete on a sidewalk costs \$40.00 - \$45.00. The average cost per curb cut installed during the fall of 2009 was \$2,195.38.

Other Business

Heidi Hample said that she has not followed up with the Town Manager regarding her potential appointment to the Commission due to personal reasons. However Heidi indicated that she would send a letter over the next 2 months to the Town Manager requesting his consideration to appointing her to the Commission.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 P.M.