

## MINUTES

### ***Mansfield Advisory Committee on Persons with Disabilities***

Regular Meeting - Tuesday February 23, 2010

2:30 PM - Conference Room B - Audrey P. Beck Building

- I. Recording Attendance: Chair W. Gibbs called the meeting to order at 2:35 PM.  
PRESENT: Briana Hoganson (guest), C. Colon-Semenza, W. Gibbs (Chair), F. Goetz, J. Tanner, J. Blanshard, K.A. Easley (staff), K. Grunwald (staff)  
REGRETS: J. Sidney
- II. Approval of Minutes: the Minutes for the January 26, 2010 meeting were accepted as written.
- III. ***New Business***
  - a. Network for parents of children with disabilities: Melissa Shippee is interested in being on this committee but was unable to attend this meeting. She is interested in connecting with other parents of children with disabilities. C. Colon-Semenza suggested utilizing the iParentNetwork's website, the school nurse, and Crossroads Physical Therapy in Columbia. Camp Horizons may be a potential resource as well. J. Blanshard checked with the bus company about identifying other children, and was told that confidentiality prohibits this. Suggestion made to advertise in the Reminder. K.A. Easley suggested using the website to establish these links with other organizations.
  - b. ADA Grievance Procedure: K. Grunwald distributed copies of a draft ADA Grievance Procedure. Discussion about the procedure and the scope of the responsibility of the committee. J. Tanner feels that it should be specified that this only relates to the Town. Also a feeling that there should be a clearer charge from the Committee on Committees along with a review by the Town Attorney regarding the grievance procedure. C. Colon-Semenza questioned whether or not the Town Attorney would have a conflict in providing consultation regarding an employee complaint. K. Grunwald will request clarification regarding the history of this role, scope and the role of Human Resources. We also may need training on this. Invite Maria Capriola to the next meeting.

- c. "Other": F. Goetz announced that there will be a walkathon to support the Brain Injury Association. He has sent the web link to K.A. Easley and she will post this link on the website as well.

#### **IV. Old Business**

- a. Transportation Resources: K. Grunwald will create a press release to publicize information in Sparks, Horizons, Mansfield Today and the newsletters at Jensen's, Glen Ridge and Juniper Hill and at the library. He will also send information to local churches.
- b. Accessible Parking Fines/Signs: J. Tanner has started taking pictures of the private spaces in town where the new signs are needed. W. Gibbs reported that the fine on the UConn campus is \$131; he will see if they can post those signs as well. W. Gibbs will draft a letter to be sent to landlords of commercial buildings.
- c. Publicity efforts: K.A. Easley is looking for suggestions for links to add to the website. She has established a link with [www.disabilityisnatural](http://www.disabilityisnatural). J. Tanner suggested the website for the CT Chapter of the MS Society, along with a link to a website for adaptive equipment. C. Colon-Semenza suggested linking to the Nayden Clinic's site, along with a link for a rowing group for people with disabilities. C. Colon-Semenza mentioned that the birth-3 program is another resource to link with and provide information to.
- d. Status of other accessibility issues previously identified: no discussion.
- e. Commission on Aging Meeting: K. Grunwald reminded members that they are invited to the COA Meeting on March 8 at 9:30. J. Blanshard will make a brief statement on behalf of the Committee.

#### ***V. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 3:25 PM. The next meeting is March 23.***

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Grunwald