

**Watertown Commission on Disability
December 17, 2008**

In attendance: Bob Hall, Carol Menton, Fred Isaacs, Anne Doughty, Alex Liazos, George Donahue, Marilyn Devaney, Kim and Brian Charlson, and Gayle Shattuck.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Guest Speaker: James T. Faletra, Outreach & Referral Coordinator, Greater Boston Guild for the Blind of West Roxbury

Mr. Faletra gave an overview of the services that are provided through the Greater Boston Guild for the Blind. There are 35-38 clients served at the Greater Boston Guild for the Blind of W. Roxbury every day with two nurses on staff. There are nine staff members altogether. The firm primarily helps those who have just started to lose their vision, mostly seniors with low income. Activities and services are offered such as exercise and lunch and transportation. They are open five days from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. They're funded by Mass Health or the Veteran's Association.

Report from the Chair:

George read his draft annual report and asked for input from the commissioners.

Curb committee meets tomorrow afternoon with George and WCOD's feedback.

Alex suggested seeing the plumber's plans before the plumber's work is done

8:00 p.m. break.

Minutes of November meeting - motion to accept

Treasurer's report - motion to accept

Discussion of upcoming goals:

Kim - news-line project, Steve Rothstein request, electronic audio, Watertown newspaper

Marilyn - publicity for emergency preparedness meetings for the community

George - have others chair the meetings - George will take January, Kim will take April

Carol - Closed Captioning

Fred - SEPAC meetings are held 7 p.m. on second Wednesday of every month at Lowell School. The following meetings will be: 3/4/09 - how to work with IEP Team, 4/8/09 - awards ceremony and 5/09 - meeting with Dr. Imber.

Anne - a disabilities arts committee

Bob asked if David Leone responded to George about the non-handicapped accessible door to the high school.

Discussion of the Registry of Motor Vehicles handout Re: Private Property Citations-Waltham. Alex suggested someone from Waltham come talk to us about their program.

Alex wants to know what role the police officers have in ticketing on private property. Gayle will follow up with Sgt. Deignan of the Police Department.

Fred requested that his son be deemed a representative of WCOD at the inauguration of President Elect Barak Obama. Motion was made to make Ray Isaacs an honorary ambassador of the Commission on Disability on January 20, 2009.

Kim announced that she is presenting her art book drawn with the Perkins Brailier at the 200th celebration of birth of Louis Braille.

9:00 pm Motion to adjourn was made and seconded.