

**Watertown Commission on Disability
March 16, 2011**

Attendees: Fred Isaacs, Acting Chair; Councilor Steve Corbett; Ann Doughty; Alex Liazos; Carol Menton; Gayle Shattuck; Carol Wilson-Braun

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Acting Chair Fred Isaacs.

Roll Call.

Guest

Molly Gong, who came to see what our commission does.

Minutes

It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously to accept the minutes of our 8 December 2010 meeting, the minutes of our 19 January 2011 meeting, and the minutes of our 16 February 2011 meeting. Copies of our minutes may be requested from the Town Clerk's office.

Treasurers Report - Gayle Shattuck

It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously to accept the Treasurer's report. Copies of the Treasurer's report may be requested from the town's ADA Coordinator in the Personnel Office.

Special Ed Report—Fred Isaacs

Dr. David Perna spoke on anger management at the March SPEDPAC meeting. He is a psychologist who specializes in anger management issues. I missed the meeting because of eye surgery, but I'm told it went well. He's a good speaker. We've had him before. He designed the anger management program at McLean, and he based that on his previous experience working with prison inmates.

The Watertown SEPAC Annual Awards Meeting is coming up on April 14 at the Mosesian Theater. It was moved, seconded, and passed with one abstention (Fred Isaacs) and no nays to provide up to \$1000.00 for CART and ASL interpretation at the SEPAC awards ceremony.

The PAC still needs volunteers to help teach Understanding Our Differences.

Closed Captioning - Carol Menton

Gayle mailed out a press release, based on Tamarah Green's press release for the Watertown Cable Commission. Gayle will send this to our state senator and representative and to the Massachusetts Municipal Association; we want to publicize what we have done and get recognition for doing it.

The Massachusetts Commission on Disabilities and the Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will also be sent copies. We welcome suggestions for other recipients. We have now successfully closed captioned 2 or 3 Town Council meetings and it is running more smoothly.

Snow Ordinance Discussion - Councilor Corbett

Our discussion with the Town Council public works subcommittee has been postponed; they will join us at our April meeting.

Art Exhibit - Anne Doughty

We can use the gallery at the library for 2 months; there are 12 spaces, so that's 24 slot-months. The library requires that we jury contributions.

We should put the word out to appropriate organizations such as the MS Society, Perkins, the Boston Center for Independent Living, the SEPAC, and the MRC task force. We would need to decide at our July meeting.

There was much discussion of jurying the art submitted. We can do it ourselves; if we find it overwhelming we can ask others to help.

Internship.

A candidate has been identified. Judy and Gayle will meet with him. Then he should come to a meeting so that the rest of us can get to know him. We will need to discuss how to fit the job to the academic year.

Youth Program. No report.

Consumer's voice magazine from Mass Rehab said that there was an Assistive Technology (AT) website at getatstuff.com. pdf versions are available.

On March 15 Gayle got a copy of a letter from the architectural access board notifying Greg's Restaurant that their parking lot was large enough so that they were required to have handicapped parking.

Peter Centola, the Town Recreation Director, will be at our April meeting.

The latest State budget seriously cuts funding for deaf-blind support. Watertown has a higher percentage of deaf-blind residents than most towns.

There are similar cuts for early intervention programs, which tend to pay for themselves in savings in later support.

Members are encouraged to send drafts of letters on these issues to Gayle.

It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously to adjourn at 8:05 PM.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Fred P. Isaacs.