



Commission on Disabilities

Minutes

Tuesday, December 21, 2021

10:00 am

Virtual Meeting at <https://actonma.zoom.us/j/94313570425> .

Present: Joan Burrows, Lisa Franklin, Leslie Johnson, Pesha Kokis, Franny Osman (chair), Melissa Wingfield plus resident volunteer, Paul; Select Board Liaison, Jim Snyder-Grant, Acton Town staff Tom Moberg, Building Commissioner, and Austin Cyganiewicz, Direction of Governmental Affairs.

Tom Moberg, Building Commissioner, attended the meeting and told us about his experience and outlook. His first words were, "Communication is important... a doer before problems exist." He visits sites early and plans ahead in determining goals. He has been our part time inspector for the past 8 months. He is continuing having assistant interviews now, hopes to hire within a month. Best way to reach him is by e mail – Building@actonma.gov or 978-929-6633 .

Austin: The **police dept has now hired a full time clinical responder** with state grant money. They will work with Mike Eracleo. Calls showed the need.

Lisa addressed the **snow** issue; people with disabilities need help cleaning sidewalks and driveways. Many have jobs to get to and others have appointments. One town has a list of volunteers, "Snow Angels", who are on call to help. Might Acton do the same? If your area is blocked by the snow plow, call Corey York at Dept. of Public Works 978-929-7740.

Discussions are underway amongst various people and staff from Emerson regarding **rides home from Emergency Room**. Need a company to take people home after taxi hours after ER visit. Not a lot of trips, and rarely need full accessibility. If anyone knows of someone, please let us know. Crosstown Connect has an emergency number to call until 7 PM weekdays. 781-895-1100, Need reliable, caring, masked people as drivers!

Annual report. See other years' annual reports, mailed by Franny. Send all thoughts to Franny regarding this year's.

COD Roles in 2022:

Lisa and Pesha will co-chair next year.
Joan and Leslie remain as PR and Treasurer

Franny offered a motion, motion moved by Pesha and 2nd by Lisa. All in favor 5-0 to approve this slate.

Meeting adjourned 11:45 am.

Notes taken by Joan Burrows, edited by Franny Osman

Acronyms:

CODA Commission on Disabilities Association (Mass.)

COA Acton Council on Aging

ER Emergency Room

TAC Acton Transportation Advisory Committee

SMOC Southern Middlesex Opportunity Council, Inc.