

COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY
Minutes for 3/20/2017

Attending: Jean Goldsberry (Chair), David Holdorf (Clerk), Nora McShane, Lloyd Price, Marybeth Barker, Meryl Schwartz, Jennifer Brooke, Tom McKean (Select Board liaison)

Special meeting called to order at 5:15 PM, in the Town House Select Board meeting room.
Minutes of 3/9/2017 approved.

(Note: Due to technical difficulties, namely a sprained writing wrist of the undersigned, few minutes were taken, but hopefully the essence is captured).

The purpose of this special meeting was to finalize a strategy for getting a warrant article establishing a Commission on Disability to replace this current Committee on Disability, into the Special Town Meeting, scheduled for the Tuesday night of the normal Town Meeting, April 25. Chris wrote the article and its content was discussed and minor modifications made, and this Committee voted unanimously to proceed with the article. The article will be proposed by Jean at the March 27 Select Board meeting. Members of this Committee should attend if possible for support. In addition, members of this Committee were asked by Jean to contact individual Select Board members to answer questions they may have about the article. Jean will write a letter to the Select Board with the points of justification for proposing the establishment of a Commission to replace the Committee. These points include:

- Most Massachusetts communities have Commissions rather than Committees, as preferred by the Massachusetts Office on Disability.
- Commissions connote a commitment by a community to all disability issues.
- Commissions are permanent, whereas a Committee can be disbanded.
- Commissions can apply to the Town for access to funds received for handicapped parking violations, and can raise funds as needed.

Meeting adjourned at 6PM.

Notes recorded by David Holdorf