

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD
WETHERSFIELD ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY MAY 16, 2007

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Present:

Carol Keenan, Chairperson
Joan Haines, Vice Chairman
Jim Grise
Christine Taylor
Kathleen Sullivan
Frank Meunier, Jr.

Liaison:

Natalie Morrison, Parks and Recreation Department

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

III. MINUTES of the September 20, 2006 meeting

A MOTION was made by Frank Meunier, Jr. to accept [the minutes of the March 21, 2007 meeting with changes](#). Seconded by Kathleen Sullivan. All were in favor, MOTION CARRIED.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Group Home Visits

There was a discussion about who would be the Liaisons for the Group Homes in Wethersfield.

B. Seniors

The town has a Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program. This program helps people with all kinds of homeowner problems they might not be able to afford including redoing roofs, installing handicapped ramps, dealing with basement flooding or asbestos issues etc. The program is based on income. Applications can be obtained through the Town Manager's Office or Social Services.

A Conference is being held called Eye Openers: Helping Older Adults with Severe Vision Loss on Friday June 15, 2007 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Windsor 8:30a.m. -3:15p.m.

Connecticut Family Parent Support Group meets Tuesday May 29th. The presentation is entitled, putting the pieces together, understanding Sensory Integration

The Disability Advocacy Collaborative invites everyone to share ideas and plans for continuing in the development of a regional disability advocacy. Anyone interested can contact Alice Butwell.

Caregiver Luncheon is being held June 6, 2007 at 10:00am and will provide useful information for caregivers.

Senior Citizen Informational Brochures can be obtained in the Department of Social and Youth Services.

C. Parks and Recreation

The Regional Special Olympics were held this past weekend at Weaver High School. About 32 athletes, special partners and adult athletes attended including some first time participants. The next event will be held in June.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run will be held on Thursday June 7, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. The course follows the Silas Deane Highway starting at the Mobil Station by Town Line Road ending at the Wethersfield Police Department.

The Statewide Summer Games begin June 8, 9 and 10th including soccer skills and athletic track and field events.

The Park and Recreation Department was able to offer a special needs child staff support so they could take part in a gymnastics program. This is something they will try to continue to offer in the future.

Natalie attended a First Responders Special Needs Course, which offered information on how best to handle emergencies for anyone with special needs.

The 3rd annual Roaring Thunder Motorcycle Ride is coming up on July 29, 2007. Donations are being accepted for the raffle. Please contact Natalie Morrison for more information.

The summer picnic will be held in July. Anyone willing to help cook, serve or clean up can contact Natalie Morrison at 721-2952.

D. Transportation/Dial-A-Ride

Member of the public, vans are hard to get on because the lifts are narrow especially for guide dog users. It is also difficult to sit down because there is nothing to hold on to and passengers get jostled around quite a bit. The lap seatbelt doesn't keep them from moving around. Steps can be difficult to get down because they are so steep.

Volunteer Driver program will be starting next year.

E. Update on Resource Booklet

One hundred copies of the Resource Booklet have been made. There are also eight copies printed in Braille. Copies will be available in the Social Services Offices and the Town Library. There was a discussion of what other locations should have copies of the Resource Booklet. Copies can also be obtained on-line through the Town website.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. ADA Compliance

Carol suggested inviting ADA representative from town to the September meeting.

VI. OTHER

There will be no WACPD meetings in the months of July and August.

Joan Haines asked if there was any progress with the issues brought up by Dick Lasher regarding the CVS store. Carol Keenan said the Town Manager thought the town had taken care it but Carol said she would get back to the Committee with more information.

A MOTION was made by Jim Grise to adjourn. Seconded by Joan Haines. All were in favor, MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen A. Knapp
Recording Secretary