

TOWN OF YARMOUTH  
DISABILITY COMMISSION  
HYBRID/TOWN HALL ROOM A  
MARCH 11, 2022. 2:00 p.m.

#### MINUTES

Chairman Dave Botting opened the meeting and called it to Order. The Reading of the General Laws followed. Individual Roll Call with Dave Botting, Gail Charette (on Zoom), Evelyn Beal, Jean Boyle, Drew Krauss, Jessica Simmons, Jody Warner all answered "Present". Mary Vilbon arrived a short time after the meeting started.

Excused Absence: Sharon Ladley

Staff: Sarah O'Reilly. "Present"

Dave welcomed new members Jessica Simmons and Mary Vilbon.

Jessica told the group that she works for C.O.R.D. (Cape Organization for the Rights of the Disabled) as an Independent Living Advocate and Mary shared that she is the Executive Director of the Yarmouth Chamber of Commerce. Other members also introduced themselves.

#### REVIEW TERM OF OFFICE:

Dave shared with the group that when he started to look into members term status that he was surprised to learn that 5 of the 6 original members terms had expired. Both Dave and Jody's terms expired January 2021. Meanwhile, Gail, Sharon and Drew's term had expired in January 2022.

The discussion then turned to how we currently look at terms of our officers (Chair, Vice Chair, and Clerk). We originally established that officers would be voted on and serve one-year terms that ran from July - June. However, since members terms from the Towns perspective seemingly all start in January, we discussed changing over to a Jan - Dec term period. Jody made a motion, seconded by Evelyn to change the officer terms to January to December. A roll call vote was taken and was approved unanimously.

#### Election

Attention was then turned to the Vice Chair role. Gail, the current Vice Chair, informed the committee that she no longer wished to serve in that capacity, however will remain on the commission. Dave inquired with Evelyn if she was interested in continuing as clerk to which she stated that she loves being the clerk. Having confirmed Evelyn's interest as Clerk, Dave inquired for others interest in the Vice Chair position. Jean then asked Dave if he would consider continuing as Chairperson. There was discussion regarding skills required for Chair position. Drew said that he felt he could not take on that responsibility at this time due to other commitments. Dave made the statement that he has been in the Chair role for a while and he is happy to have others step up if there is interest in the Chair position. In the absence of other members agreeing to step into the Vice Chair role, Jody offered to take on this assignment if Dave will stay in the chair role and he could learn from him. Dave noted that he recently was elected Chair of the YMCA of Cape Cod Board of Directors and felt that he had a lot on his plate between his current job and these board assignments and so he would gladly step aside. When nobody offered to fill the Chair role, Dave agreed to serve until the end of the new term, December 2022.

Dave then inquired whether members whose terms had expired intended to extend. All responded with "yes", with the exception of Sharon who was not in attendance. Sarah agreed to coordinate with the Town steps necessary to secure those new appointments.

With that change, Dave felt that we should select officers now and vote for the new year (Jan 2022 - Dec 2022) rather than wait until June 2022. Again, the consensus of the group was that this made sense.

A motion was made by Drew Krauss, seconded by Jean Boyle to approve the new slate of officers (David Botting, Chair, Jody Warner, Vice-Chair, Evelyn Beal, Clerk) to a term through December 2022 and a vote was taken, with 7 yes, 1 no, and 1 abstain.

#### MINUTES

Jody made a motion to accept the minutes from February 18, 2022, seconded by Drew. A roll call vote was taken and approved 6 yes and 3 abstaining.

#### UPDATES:

C.A.M. (Community Access Monitoring) Jean shared that when she reached back out to them to schedule a training that would be hosted by the Yarmouth Disability Commission that they told her that they were booked for the rest of the year. The next available training will be sometime next year. In the interim, we have the option to sign up for an already scheduled virtual training as an individual participant. They require at least 35 people for each virtual training. Jean will monitor their site and keep us informed.

#### SENIOR CENTER

Drew and Evelyn to staff a Yarmouth Disability Information table on Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-11am. Report to be given at next meeting.

#### TRACKER:

Dave brought up the most recent Tracker cases (Case #22-01 and 22-02) and asked if someone would agree to follow up on them. One was a gentleman looking for some assistance at his home. Jessica agreed to follow up. The second was someone from the Disability Law Center asking about doing a presentation to our committee about the Rep Payee Review Program. (A benefit payment management process for beneficiaries who need help managing their Social Security payments.) Jessica agreed to follow up and invite him to a future meeting.

Case #21-04 re sidewalk in front of Transition Centers: A response was received from the letter sent by Town Administrator, Robert Whritenour, Jr.'s and this Commission to MASSDOT. They declined our request at this time. Next steps to be determined. Dave mentioned that possibly State Representative Tim Whelan might be able to give us assistance on this case. He will follow up.

WEBSITE: Sarah reported that she had updated the link to the 521CMR to the website.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Mary reported that the Town is preparing to put in a splash pad at Sandy Pond Recreation Center. The Town needs to ensure that the splash pad is ADA compliant. Mary shared the information about a non-profit organization that helps ensure playgrounds are ADA compliant. Jessica reported that Truro recently built a playground that is completely accessible and may be a resource.

Since we are out of time, all issues will be tabled for the next Meeting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN at 3:26 Motion by Drew, seconded by Jessica.  
Individual Roll Call all answered in the Affirmative.

Next Meeting, April 8, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

~~Kevin Orsak~~

D. Zetter  
5/13/22