



Lancaster Commission on Disability Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2023

Present: Chair Mike McCue, Daryl Blaney, Eugene Brazeau, Lesley Allison; volunteers present: Pat Maguire, Jim Peters; guest present: Susan Munyon

Meeting was called to order: 6:08pm

1. August Meeting Minutes were reviewed and accepted.
2. Lancaster Accessibility Awareness Month (LAAM)
 - a. Two different pamphlets were ordered from the Invisible Disability Association by Daryl and Lesley. The pamphlets ordered are titled: "Don't Judge By Appearances" and "Looks Can Be Deceiving". These can be available for Daryl's program at the church and in other various locations such as the library and community center.
 - b. Posters - Lesley has ordered and received one and will order 2 others. Ideas for locations they can be placed include: the library, the Prescott Building, the schools, and the community center
 - c. Thayer Memorial Library - Will have a literature display; will post links to podcasts on their website; there is a discussion with Joe and Rachel about producing their own podcast interview. Lesley has asked a colleague if she would be willing to be interviewed for the podcast. Pat has a friend she can ask but the timing may not work out for this individual
 - d. News release - McCue and Associates is working on it and will distribute it by the end of the month.
 - e. Invisible disability week is 10/15-10/21
 - f. Facebook page - Will make posts with an announcement about the theme and activities
 - g. Emergency Preparedness Guide - The guide will be printed and mailed differently than the town's typical method. Mike is working through this and the guide will likely be printed and distributed more toward the end of the month. It will be sent with a letter and mailed to every household in town.
 - h. Daryl will be speaking at the Village Church at an evening meeting to end the Sabbath.
3. Posthumously Honoring Rose-Marie Bissonette
 - a. Mike spoke to her sons about the concept of doing something in her honor. They should be involved with making this decision.
 - b. Ideas from the COD group include:
 - i. A high school senior scholarship in Rose's name to be given to a recipient who has devoted time to working with individuals with disabilities or who plans to study something in this sphere. Concerns with this idea include funding and maintenance of the scholarship.

- ii. We should consider getting Heather Abbott and her foundation involved in any ideas we may have. Rose was in contact with Heather after her amputation.
 - iii. We should also consider getting the NE Amputee Association involved in this remembrance.
 - iv. Rose had recommended donations to Nashoba Neighbors.
 - v. We could also consider a memorial bench just like we did for Lorry.
- 4. Miscellaneous:
 - a. Pastor John MacKenzie of Steeple Fellowship Congregation Church reached out to Mike McCue. He expressed interest in volunteering for the COD.
- 5. ACTION ITEMS
 - a. Website - Mike forwarded emails to Jim on the previous research on accessibility of the site. Jim will take a deeper dive into the material, make an executive summary and report his findings to Mike. Mike will then take steps to review the findings with the town.
 - b. Tracking tool - Pat will update and send out again.

Meeting concluded: 7:58 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Lesley Allison