

Township of Toms River, Ocean County
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Toms River, New Jersey 08753

Monday, June 4, 2007 ADA Meeting

Mayor's Advisory Committee on Compliance with the Americans with Disability Act meets 6 times a year. In 2007 we will meet at 7:00 pm on Mondays Jan. 8, March 5, May 7, June 4, Sept. 10, and Nov. 5. Please confirm dates before attending.

Attendance: Regina Ferris, Re-elected Chairwoman 2007

John Winton	Colleen O'Dell-Multer
Susan Payne Gato	Anne Avignone
Regina Ferris (Reggie)	Evelyn Labick
Ruth Fiedler	Rudy Maneff
Terry & Steve Guerrini	Rich Marazo
Jesse Avignone	

Meeting called to order by Regina at 7:00 pm

Rudy was welcomed back.

Old Business: Reggie was called at 8:30 am this past Friday and was asked to attend a walk through scheduled for 1:00 pm at Huddy Park that day. She called other ADA members but no others could attend on such short notice. On behalf of our members, Reggie presented Mayor Brush with a plaque and words of appreciation for his continued support of the ADA committee and their accomplishments. The Asbury Park Press attended, took photos and wrote a story.

John Winton will provide our committee with a photo of the plaque.

Founders Day – Our ADA Booth was well attended. It was a hot day but many people attended. Many attendees were very grateful for the information we shared and the printed matter we had available to hand out.

Ocean County Mall – Our committee agreed that OCM needs to have scooters available for visitors who need them. Baby carriages are available and many benches and those are very helpful and appreciated but scooters would allow users to “walk” the mall and wait on lines to

make purchases. People with limitations cannot stand or walk for extended periods. Steve will visit Monmouth and Seaview Malls and find out their position on public scooters.

Tiffany's Restaurant and Bar in TR has added many handicap parking spaces according to John Winton.

No Grant for Seaside Heights.

Anne reported that many handicap parking spots are now gone in Seaside Heights. She has before and after photos. All spots are gone on the East side (boardwalk) so now people with a handicap must park on the West side and cross a very busy street. All the ramps and hand rails have still not been brought into compliance. They are too steep and railings are not adequate. Seaside Park has "no meter" handicap spots on the boardwalk side and in the parking lot.

Playdrome Bowling Alley – Four letters have been sent to them by this committee requesting ADA upgrades. We have not received a response and mandated accessible changes have not been made. A formal complaint will be completed in the near future and a protest demonstration is planned. We will have our committee members and family and friends join the demonstration. We will also tap into other groups such as Team Randy, ARC, Group Homes and United Spinal. The Veterans Administration can help prepare teams on ADA issues according to Colleen. We respectfully ask the Toms River Mayor and Council to support us and join us in our protest. We will notify the Press of the date of the planned demonstration and we will have a rain date set up.

Township Code – John Winton will find out if TR has a code that allows the permit fee to be waived for handicap upgrade improvements for homeowners. Other towns currently have such a code in effect.

Emergency Evacuation Plan – John Winton is communicating with Art from Manchester about their plan. He will find out about Federal Grant, etc.

Money is available from township and donations from corporations.

John now keeps the ADA mailbox key.

Bell Crest, Food Town, Gym and Blockbuster – Rich reported that handicap spaces have been taken and changed to 15 minute spaces. The owner is H. Hovnanian in Tinton Falls. We will reach out to him.

When a person develops a handicap – Home modifications are necessary and several offices can offer assistance. You may reach out to the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, NJ State – Office of Disability, Federal – HUD- Low Income and Hands for All – Hyers Street, TR to name a few sources. You can also join our continuing petition to have TR Township meetings televised live.

Monday, August 13 at 6:00pm a Summer meeting will be held at Anne and Jesse's home, it is accessible, has food and a pool! We will discuss the difficulties and non compliance of Playdrome Bowling Alley.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 pm

Next Meeting: Monday, September 10, 2007 at 7 pm