Minutes of Meeting Foxborough Committee for Disabled Citizens May 27, 2009

Present: Sue Collins, Fran Bell, Marilyn Lucas, Nancy Biggar, Chuck Gallagher, Cindy Curran and Bill Basbarra, Building Commissioner.

Richard Biggieri was not present but has sworn in and told Sue that he does desire to continue as a Member of the Committee.

Cathy Hickey was contacted by Sue and stated she no longer can serve on the Committee. Bill stated that she must write a letter of resignation to the Selectmen. Sue said she would take care of that.

Most of those present have been members of the Committee since its inception.

Cindy Curran and Chuck Gallagher expressed their desire to become members of the Committee for Disabled Citizens. Sue said she would contact Andy Gala who would in turn present their names to the Selectmen at their next meeting to make them official members.

Cindy Curran talked about the detectable strips for visually impaired people with one and a quarter inch bubbled pads at crosswalks. She stated that according to the Commission for the Blind all new roads must have these strips and pads. Bill asked Cindy to find this in the American Disability Acts Regulations. Discussion followed.

A Motion was made by Bill and it was seconded by Fran: The Committee will research detectable warning strips at crosswalks and develop a standard for permanent placement for the town of Foxborough. Cindy and Bill will work on this.

We would like to have an Article ready by August to present at Annual Town Meeting in the fall.

Chuck Gallagher is a Foxborough Police Officer. He is very concerned about the abuse of Handicapped Parking spots by able-bodied citizens. He would like to increase the fees for violators and make it a priority for the Police to ticket offenders. Discussion followed. Handicapped Parking spots

must be clearly defined with larger areas of blue paint on the ground and proper signage. Bill asked Chuck to do more research into this matter. Also discussed was the extensive Handicapped Parking at Gillette Stadium and what to do when there is no event at the Stadium.

A Motion was made by Bill and seconded by Marilyn: Research to get a Town By-Law for parking spaces to have blue paint and signage for Handicapped Parking and have it maintained.

A Motion was made by Bill and seconded by Nancy:
Adopt a Police Ordinance to enforce Handicapped Parking with an increased fine. Look into Sign Regulations for Business Owners to have spaces properly marked for the Disabled. This must be in compliance with the Architectural Access Board of MA.

Bill thought it would be a good idea to have Tom Hopkins or Deb Ryan of the Architectural Access Board of MA at our next meeting.

Next meeting: July 15, Wednesday at 3 PM in the Selectmen's Room at Town Hall.