

# TOWN OF EAST HAVEN

## AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT COMMISSION

### MINUTES

JANUARY 8, 2009, 7:13 PM, TOWN HALL

**Seated** for the committee were Robert D. Hoff, Norman DeMartino and JoeVellali.

**Absent** were Linda Carlson and Kerry Martens.

#### **Old Business:**

Discussion about route 80 having sidewalks and extending the time at the traffic lights.

Reading and acceptance of minutes from November 13, 2008, Norman DeMartino

Motion to accept and Robert Hoff seconded the motion.

#### **New Business:**

1. A moment of Silence, a note read by Robert Hoff.

When Benjamin Franklin wrote "God helps them that help themselves" in Poor Richard's Almanac he was probably giving very little thought to the American Disability Act Committee however my friends I believe that if our minds can conceive it and in our hearts we believe it then we together can achieve it...As an example of this I would like to take a moment to touch upon our first ever Stuff-A-Truck event that was held shortly before Christmas.

Stuff-A-Truck was a concept that I thought of but through the work of this committee along with the support of The Mayor's office and A&P in Foxon in just four short hours we collected over two hundred dollars in monetary donations and one hundred and twenty seven bags of groceries to help families in the East Haven community.

As we move forward into a new year filled with challenges and fresh ideas we must always keep first and foremost in the front of our minds that we the members of this Committee are here for but a moment but in the time we have we will continue to help those residents in the East Haven

community that are in need of our help and work together to create a brighter future for generations of East Haven residents with disabilities.

It is with those words in mind that I ask you to join me in a moment of silence to reflect on the challenges we have overcome in the last year and ask that you join me as we move forward into this New Year to face new challenges, climb even higher and continue to help even more people in our community this year.

2. Mr. Vellali gave committee the name of John Blando who might be able to give us information on the Traffic light situation and Senior/Disable housing in E. Haven. Mr. Hoff is going to contact Mike Lawlor to see if he can lend a hand.

3. Committee will meet in the Mayor's Office at 5pm, January 19, 2009.

Robert Hoff and Joe Vellali checked the handicap bathroom's and will bring what is needed to the Mayor's office to comply with standards at that meeting.

4. Ask the Mayor about filling more seats on the commission and if the person the Mayor had thought of being on the committee was still interested.

**Robert Hoff read letters:**

1. A letter from the Mayor's Office dealing with people on the committees and boards need to let the town officials know of their address change.

2. A letter from Mr. Salvatore Mattei from E. Haven's food pantry thanking us for all the food and money they received from us on our event of "STUFF A TRUCK".

Robert Hoff is planning another food drive with A&P on April 4, 2009, from 11am to 5pm. He will contact Mr. Mattei to see if he can meet us at the food pantry at 5pm or we'll have to change the times for the event. Suggestions for a theme for this event will be discussed at the next meeting.

Motion to Adjourn: Norman DeMartino, Seconded by Joe Vellali.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert D. Hoff Chairman