

## CHARGE TO THE ORLEANS COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

The Orleans Commission on Disabilities mission is to assure that all people in Orleans have an equal opportunity to participate in all functions involving living, working, and enjoying recreation activities. The Commission will work towards this end by informing, educating, monitoring, and advising the public, including the business community and the town administration.

The Orleans Commission on Disabilities shall consist of five full members and two associate members appointed by the Board of Selectmen for overlapping three-year terms and be responsible to the Board of Selectmen through the Town Administrator.

Three of said commission members shall consist of people with disabilities, one member shall be a member of immediate family of a person with a disability and one member of said Commission shall be unspecified. The two associates will also be unspecified. An elected or appointed official of the Town of Orleans shall participate as a non-voting member of the Commission.

The purpose of the Commission shall be to cause the full integration and participation of people with disabilities in the Town of Orleans, such Commission shall; (1) research local problems of people with disabilities; (2) advise and assist municipal officials and employees in ensuring compliance with state and federal laws and regulations that affect people with disabilities; (3) coordinate or carry out programs designed to meet the problems of people with disabilities in coordination with programs of the Massachusetts Office on Disability; (4) review and make recommendations about policies, procedures, services, activities and facilities of departments, boards and agencies of the Town of Orleans as they affect people with disabilities; (5) provide information, referrals, guidance and technical assistance to individuals, public agencies, businesses and organizations in all matters pertaining to disability; (6) coordinate activities of other local groups organized for similar purposes; and (7) to help raise awareness and sensitivity to the needs of the people who are disabled.

Said Commission may receive gifts of property, both real and personal, in the name of the Town of Orleans, subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen, such gifts to be managed and controlled by said Commission for the purposes of this Commission. Expenditures or liability of Town funds are to be reviewed by the Board of Selectmen through the Town Administrator.

The Commission shall meet at least once every two months and file its minutes with the Town Clerk within thirty (30) days of the meeting. The Commission shall file a Commission Summary Report with the Board of Selectmen within fifteen days from the last meeting of the month and will submit an annual report to the Town Administrator by the first week of January, of the following year for publication in the annual Town Report.

Approved by COD 11/21/08

Approved by BOS: 12/3/08