## Addendum B NFPA Fire Safety for People with Disabilities Task Force Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Virginia September 18, 2012, Dinner September 19–20, 2012, Meeting

Meredith Hawes could not stay for the second day of the meeting and submitted these suggestions:

## Hi Sharon and Lisa,

I didn't get the opportunity to share a couple of suggestions for "documents and messaging" during the earlier discussion, and since I cannot be here tomorrow, I wanted to leave them with you to give consideration to:

- 1. We have a successful "Remembering When" program, and I have used the materials to support a couple of different initiatives such as outreach to people who are deaf/hard-of-hearing, and people with mobility disabilities, specifically those living with Parkinson's disease. I would LOVE to see the same 16 visual materials but depicting a younger, more diverse group of people. The fire issues can be directed to both groups, and it would better relate, as there are obviously older people who are deaf/hard-of-hearing and there is a growing number of people diagnosed with early-onset Parkinson's disease (50 years and younger).
- 2. Also a helpful document that we produced is a daily checklist that I use often when reaching people who are living with disabilities. It is a helpful reminder on items to have and ideas to consider when creating a home escape plan. For instance, if a disability prevents a person from escaping and he or she needs to defend in place as long as possible, the person and caregivers need to be educated on what to do. One specific thing is to have a phone near the bedside with emergency numbers that include a neighbor that can assist in exiting the home as they wait for the fire service. I have attached for you to look over.

Thank you again for the opportunity to be a part of this group. What a fantastic amount of synergy.