

Scituate Commission on Disabilities, December 18, 2012 <>

COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES MEETING MINUTES

December 18th, 2012 at 6:30pm

Little Red School House, Cudworth Road

Members in Attendance: Jeff Dougan, Chairperson
Jerry Fierimonte, Council on Aging Representative
John McLaughlin
Selectman John Danehey
Christine Duane
Anne Breen
Megan Sommer

Also in Attendance: Jean Batty

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Jeffrey Dougan called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.
2. Acceptance of Past Minutes: The September 2012 minutes will be held until the next meeting.
3. Old Business:

A) MBTA, Greenbush Station – One of the lawsuits has been resolved (Docket - 076) and the other is being disputed (Docket - 077). The Commission on Disabilities wants to see a crosswalk at the 3-way stop at the intersection of Stockbridge Rd. and Old Driftway. The Architectural Access Board (AAB) is arguing that they have provided access to the station. The AAB is going to do a site visit and Selectman John Danehey volunteered to attend that meeting. Selectman John Danehey also suggested some media coverage could encourage the AAB to resolve the issue.

B) Marine Center – The restrooms will be modified to allow for storage, etc. but accessibility will be maintained.

C) Inn at Scituate Harbor, Dog Watch Pub – Christine Duane did a site visit and found that the restrooms are not accessible. Jeff Dougan asked John McLaughlin to try and get a copy of the floor plan/site plan of the building. He also questioned whether the space was always a restaurant/bar or not. This may have an impact on how the Commission proceeds.

D) Maura Lago Bldg. – Was granted variances for 7 exterior entrances. This was due to the fact that the building has an interior hall that acts as the spine of the building, giving access to each rented space. However, all future lease language must stipulate that all accessible entrances be open when exterior doors are open. The Annex Building, which has no lift to access the 2nd floor space, was granted a variance for the current tenant only. This is allowable as long as only employees use the office space.

The new Welch Bldg. was also discussed. There is a parking space between 'Out of the Blue' and the ramp into the new Welch Bldg. It is unclear the intent of this space and whether it is properly striped. Jeff Dougan will do a site visit.

E) GATRA – Selectman John Danehey is going to check on the status of this project. The Commission discussed how agreement on the route has not been reached. Jeff Dougan pointed out that the service is supposed to give similar service to 'The Ride'. Anne Breen suggested that a public survey would be helpful in deciding what stops would be most desired.

F) JW's Burger Bar – The Commission reviewed the site plan for the proposed 'Pizza Take-Out Kitchen'. Jeffery Dougan stated that he would ask Neil Duggan to make sure the counter is built at an accessible height.

4.New Business:

A)Jeff Dougan stated that 'Independence Associates' would attend a future meeting.

B)The new residential lift inspection regulation was discussed.

C)The Grist Mill pocket park has been completed and looks great.

D)Jean Batty attended a meeting/tour of the Gates School in her son's wheelchair. She was very dismayed to discover all of the accessibility violations. She questioned what the Commission has been doing about the issues at Gates. Going before the BOS was suggested. Anne Breen is going to speak with the Scituate Mariner about past students and the difficulties they have experienced. John McLaughlin will also try to get a floor plan/site plan of Gates. A motion was made by Anne Breen for Jeffrey Dougan to send a formal statement regarding the dangers at Gates to the BOS, 2nd by Megan Sommer. The Commission voted unanimously in favor.

5.Adjournment: The CoD has tentatively scheduled the next meeting for Wed, January 23rd at 7:30. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 8:17pm.

Submitted by Simone Zimmerman