

TOWN OF SCITUATE
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COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES MEETING
Wednesday, April 13, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: John McLaughlin, Chairperson; Jeff Dougan, member; Elaine Schembari, member; Megan Sommer, member; Jean Batty, concerned resident; John Danehey, Scituate Selectman and CoD liaison to the BoS;

1. Call to Order. Chairperson John McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM at the Little Red Schoolhouse on Cudworth Road.

2. Acceptance of Past Minutes. Mr. Dougan motioned to conditionally accept the March meeting minutes pending a date correction. Ms. Schembari seconded the motion. Motion to conditionally accept the meeting minutes passed unanimously.

3: Old Business

- A) Lighthouse Boardwalk Plans: The Commission will continue to monitor this project. No new information available at this time.
- B) Jenkins Curb Cut: The Town has submitted a request for an extension for the hearing date. It is currently scheduled for June 7, 2016. The issue of the playground's non-compliance is also being addressed.
- C) Front Street Curb Cut at TKs: TKs has requested a variance on compliance and needs input from the CoD. There is a 14-day comment period.
- D) New Middle School Building and New Safety Complex Plans: Discussion concerning the plans available for our purview. They are not detailed enough. Mr. Danehey Suggested that Mr. McLaughlin be present at future meetings. Also suggested requesting more detailed plans. The need to obtain a Building Commission Liaison was identified. Mr. Dougan will draft a letter for Mr. Danehey identifying the current issues as known.
- E) Shared concerns related to Parking/Fines, etc.: No new information available at this time. Discussion as to raising the fines in order to promote compliance with the parking signs. Chairperson, Mr. McLaughlin will reach out to Lt. Thompson and the TRRC (Traffic Rules & Regulations Committee) on HP issues.
- F) Prepare Agenda for Addressing the Town's Selectpersons. With Selectman Danehey's active involvement, no need to have this on the agenda. Topic will be removed.
- G) Open Meeting Law with Remote Participation: Mr. Danehey felt that the request to have remote participation was a valid one due to quorum needs for the Commission. We will contact John Roser from Scituate TV and Bill Sheehan for IT to see what we will need to implement.

4. New Business

- A) Setup and plans for Playgrounds New playgrounds are being built in No. Scituate. We will need to review plans to ensure accessibility. Ms. Sommer will be the liaison from CoD to the Playground project.
- B) Transportation for Disabled and Dependents: Discussion related to GATRA and possibility of expanding its use. Mr. Danehey suggested that Mr. McLaughlin maintain his position on the GATRA Board. The GATRA project in Scituate was a pilot program and it would be beneficial for the CoD to be represented on the Board. Mr. McLaughlin should also initiate and lead something in the town to ensure adequate transportation is available.
- C) Town of Scituate Transition Plan: Discussion concerning evaluating town's transition plan to ensure compliance with 2010 regs. The possibility of hiring a consultant to come into town and do a full, comprehensive evaluation of the Transition Plan and compliance was discussed. All felt this would be a good idea. Mr. Danehey will bring to BoS.
- D) Accessible School Buses: Discussion again about the unavailability of a handicap accessible bus for field trips was held. It was decided that we will demand a copy of the school's transportation policies. Mr. Dougan will send a letter to the School Principal and to the Superintendent of Transportation.

5. Adjournment. Ms. Sommer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Dougan seconded it. All voted to adjourn and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM. The next CoD meeting is scheduled for May 11th, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Schembari