

Disability Commission
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 15, 2023
In Person Meeting

Meeting convened and called to order at 6:01 PM

Roll Call:

Members Present

Marcia Cairns, Ronald Menard, Lisa Thompson, Patrick Crowley

Invited Guest

Jennifer Warren-Dyment (West Boylston Town Administrator/ ADA Coordinator for West Boylston)

New Business:

Complaints: Parking lot Webster First, and another parking lot in town.

Everyone gets notified, and the business must comply or get variance. The Disability Commission is not liable, just to be brought to attention.

Meeting from June,

Issues to attack

Ron: Where to start?

Website accessibility good starting point

Jen: Good starting point

Ron: anything to add?

Jen: Service animal policy approved

Jen: There are sections in the plan with recommendations for trainings. In the report there is a link to the help identify

Fillable forms, acronyms, and scanned documents

Ron: Thought all of us look at about town, maybe start with about our town. Lots of links, if linking internally we are responsible.

Pat" We want to go to *About Our Town* section of the Town Website and look through it. There is a link on WBPA.. there are more links, do we do all those?

Jen says, there is nothing here, nothing scanned in.

Pat: So we go over all the links, to the links.

Ron" Just the home page of each one."

Jen: The thing about "Our Tow" might not be a lot. Go to Town Clerk's page. There is a lot there.

Ron" You think that's where we start?

Jen Just the town website, not school, library... they have to do that.

Pat: So if we click on request for Ballot

Ron: So Our Town and Clerks Page.

Jen: Flag it, make a list, and let Jen know and they will fix it. The Accessibility page is accessible.

So no scanned documents. ADAa transition plan is up and open for public comment, no one has commented yet. 4 more days. Then it will go back to Selectboard and will be approved and will no longer be a draft.

Pat: No acronyms at all.

Jen: It can be in document as long as it says full word first (i.e, Zone Board of Appeals), then ZBA)

Pat: Is there a difference with phone accessibility and computer accessibility?

Lisa: No more acronyms in meeting minutes, as of July 1, 2023

Next meeting will be September 12, 6PM in Selectboard Room. (ended up being rescheduled to Thursday, September 28th at 6PM due to lack of quorum on September 12th)

Ron: Do people complain about the website?

Jen: We have grant funding of 75,000 for ADA and 152,000 for pride park Next meeting want Disability Commission to give thoughts on how to spend 75,000. We have to spend by June 30, 2024.

ADA project Grant open now, closes in 3 weeks. We are finally eligible because we have the transition plan. It can be 200,000, but likely 50,000. Has to be spent by June 30, 2024. Would like facility director to get a quote. If not that, then the bandstand.

We will keep putting in for ADA grants as much as we can. Try to fund as much as we can.

Ron: Have there been more complaints about the location of Town Meeting?

Jen: Location of Town Meeting, is it still in ADA non complaint space. Selectboard has set the date, but location needs to be discussed. Could be more accessible if in the gym.

Pat: Big Picture, if we meet there we can't get sued.

Marcia: Chairs folding chairs can be hard to get up from sitting.

Jen: There is enough seating at Senior Center but there isn't enough parking. Gym would be a good faith effort.

New members? Ron will ask on West Boylston Neighbors Connect.

Motion to Adjourn, all approve.

Meeting adjourn 6:45PM

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa. M. Thompson