

**COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
JANUARY 5, 2015 MINUTES**

In Attendance: Barbara Tennison, Jennifer Shaw, Paul Wasil, Judy Coletta,
Lynn Vaillancourt, Crystal Evans-Pradhan

Building Dept. Liaison: Erik Erskine

Mayor's Assistant: Chris Griffin

Meeting Opened: 6:30 P.M. **Meeting Adjourned:** 8:35 P.M.

Telephone Calls: No Phone Calls

Approved: December 1, 2014 Meeting Notes

Budget/Monthly Accounting Reports: Waiting for final clarification on the Comm. Access Monitor
Training Program funds deposit

ON-GOING/STATUS:

1. Proposed Community Center/Walk Through Upon Completion:
Anticipated Spring 2015
2. Town Hall Accessible Entrance:
No update
3. Water & Sewer Bldg (Old Thayer Library)
No update
4. Transition Plan (TP):
Still awaiting word as to when the meeting with Mayor Sullivan will be scheduled
5. Parks & Recreation:
 - RockNGlide: *No update on installation of part for the RockNGlide*
 - Charlotte Rose Playground : *On-going project for barrier to be removed, walkway to be constructed, and swing harness replacements*
 - Hollingsworth Playground: *Playground officially opened on Nov. 28, 2014
Barbara & Tom intend to do a walk through in the spring*
6. High School Pool and Rink:
Still out to bid
7. Daugherty Gym/BEMA:
The commission still needs to review the information that was handed out to them as well as discuss next steps with respect to our concerns for the special needs population in the town when a disaster happens.
8. Handicap Parking Program/Fraudulent Use of Placard or Plate
No update
9. Mass Office on Disabilities/Community Access Monitor Program (Oct. 22-23/2014):
34 consumers and professionals attended the program. C.O.D collected registration fees totaling \$1,070.; awaiting report from Ed Spellman for the exact amount deposited after paying Panera invoice
10. Town Hall Lower Level problems:
There is still an issue of water pooling in front of the HC entrance. No update.
11. Disability Handicap Indicator Program/Braintree Police
Per Chris Griffin, Police Officer Jamie Mosseou, is the liaison for this program. Barbara will contact him.
12. Audible Signals:
Lynn to reach out to Bob Campbell for more information regarding installing more audible signals at major intersections throughout Braintree

13. Streets, Roads and Sidewalks:
Tom Whalen, Director of D.P.W., will also be addressing the following issues and be giving us periodic updates:
-Board member Crystal Evans-Pradhan has created a list of problem areas around the Rt. 37 and Washington Street areas that are in need of sidewalk repair as well as street repairs needed on Hall Ave., Ms. Evans-Pradhan has experienced on numerous occasions damage to her wheelchair due to pot holes, gaps in sidewalks, tree roots sticking out of sidewalks along her routes of travel in her wheelchair. Ms. Evans-Pradhan met with Tom Whalen and Chris Griffin at some of the areas that are in need of repair. Plans are to fix what they can now and complete the repairs in the Spring.
- Temporary curb cuts were installed at the Pearl St. entrance to the Shaw's parking lot (Per Tom Whalen, any problems with town snow removal, please contact the following persons at the DPW-Highway Dept.: Steve O'Brien, Georgia, Dave McKenna, Walter Sullivan, 781-794-8950)
14. Complaint of shopping carts being left unattended on sidewalk in front of Marshalls Department store which impedes everyone's safe travel along that route, but more so for anyone in a wheelchair or with a disability who may not have the ability to maneuver around the carts or push them out of their way.
Crystal will write letter to the Manager of the store.
15. Facebook - a discussion took place about the idea of creating a facebook page for the commission.
Crystal and Barbara agreed to write up a proposal with ideas of what could be some ideas for the commission to post. Research will also be done on what other towns/cities are doing for their commission's facebook pages.
16. A discussion took place regarding the lack of a wheelchair accessible taxi service in our town.
Crystal has agreed to look into what it would take to bring an accessible taxi service into our town or possibly meet with taxi services that are currently licensed in this town to modify a van or purchase an accessible van.

NEXT MEETING IS MONDAY FEBRUARY 2, 2015

(BT 01/20/15)