

COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

April 1, 2013

MINUTES

In Attendance: Barbara Tennison, Lynn Vaillancourt, Jennifer Shaw, Judy Coletta and Robin Torpey

Mayor Sullivan's Administrative Assistant: Christopher Griffin

Building Department Liaison: Mike McGourty

Guest: Nelson Chin, Parks & Recreation Director

Meeting Opened: 6:30 P.M. **Meeting Adjourned:** 7:47 P.M.

March 11, 2013 Meeting Notes Accepted.

Phone Calls: None

ON-GOING/STATUS:

1. Thayer Public Library Accessibility:
The C.O.D. is awaiting response from the AAB regarding the library's variance request.
2. Proposed Community Center/Playground Restrooms at 1969 Washington Street plan progress:
Per Chris Griffin, no updates. There is no plan for activity on the second floor. It will only be used for storage, but Mayor Sullivan is looking at a possible lift.
3. Town Hall Accessible Entrance:
Per Christine Stickney, the CPC Funding Application is on hold. Christine would like to attend a C.O.D. meeting. Barbara Tennison will extend an invitation for the next meeting.
4. Water & Sewer Bldg.:
Per Chris Griffin, Mayor Sullivan does want to have a plan in place by end of year, as to what it will be used for. There are no pending plans as of yet. They are looking into CPC funding for doors, windows & accessible entrance renovations.
5. Transition Plan (TP):
Occupants of 90 Pond Street are moving. Proposals are for the Board of Health, Engineering & Planning to go to the basement of Town Hall. Destinations for the other departments have not been determined as of yet. Mayor Sullivan would like the move completed by the summer, as he would like to pursue options for possibly selling the building.
6. Funding for a Shading System for the Rock'N Ship Glider at the Highlands Playground:
Hoping for a response from Barbara Mello by June regarding the grant application sent to The Christopher Reeve Foundation .
7. Mass Highway's repaving of Route 37:
Per Chris Griffin, the Town Engineers have not had any luck with Mass. D.O.T. Chris has no further updates, but will reach out to the State Delegation.
8. Watson Park Splash Pad & High School pool & rink plans status:
No update. Per Nelson Chin, plans are for it to be accessible.

9. High School/Pool and Rink
No update.
10. Adoption of the Provisions of Chapter 40: Section 22G:
Per Chris Griffin, the town does not have to adopt Chapter 40, Section 22G, per the town attorney, Carolyn Murray.
11. Daugherty Gym/MEMA:
Per Chris Griffin, this project is on hold. The doors are the only work that has been done. Chris will find out if the Town Hall and/or the High School will continue to be the designated emergency centers for the town residents.
12. Community Outreach Mailing:
Per Chris Griffin, C.O.D. can go ahead with the mailing, but to make sure to copy both Robyn LaFrance and him.
13. Neighbor Brigade (NB):
Judy Coletta has not heard from her recently.
14. Parks and Recreation Accessible Transportation:
Nelson Chin attended our meeting. We discussed in depth the responsibility lies in his department to make sure that there is accessible transportation available in a timely fashion for residents who may need it for town trips that they sponsor. Lynn offered to contact Elder Affairs to find out which company they use to transport residents to out of town trips. We will also continue this discussion at our May 13th meeting, Jeff Dougan from the Mass. Office on Disabilities will be attending.
15. Mobi-Chair/Town Purchase status:
Per Chris Griffin, Mayor Sullivan has the paperwork, but has not completed it.
16. Charlotte Rose Playground-outreach:
This project is being funded by private donations, but it is still for public use. Barbara will reach out to the playground committee for more information and to request copy of plans.
17. HP Funds-Review of Revenue:
Barbara to request up to date report from Ed Spellman.
18. Serving People with Disabilities Grant:
Connie Collier, Assistant Director, Thayer Library has asked for our support and assistance on ideas for the Serving People with Disabilities grant that the library is applying for. Ideas were forwarded to Connie via email.
19. Jeff Dougan, Mass. Office on Disabilities will be attending C.O.D. May 13, 2013 meeting.
20. Clarification on responsibility of overseeing construction/reconstruction of playgrounds and equipment:
Plans should go to the Bldg. Dept. when they are completed. They then are reviewed to make sure they are up to ADA and AAB code. The playground equipment falls under ADA and the surface in and around the equipment falls under AAB which would be the jurisdiction of the Bldg. Dept.

21. MBTA Bus Huts:
Responsibility for snow removal falls under the jurisdiction of the MBTA.
 22. Town wide Census:
Awaiting response from Town Clerk regarding anyway of finding out how many residents in the town are disabled.
 23. Community Inclusion Award:
A donation for the Community Inclusion Award, by vote of 4 for and 1 abstain, was approved in the amount of \$350.
- (RT 4/23/2013)