

**COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
MAY 5, 2014
MINUTES**

In Attendance: Barbara Tennison, Robin Torpey, Judy Coletta, and Paul Wasil

Building Dept. Liaison: Russ Forsberg

Mayor's Liaison: Chris Griffin

Guests: Debra Starr, Assistant Town Clerk

Meeting Opened: 6:31 P.M. **Meeting Adjourned:** 7:30 P.M.

Telephone Calls: No Phone Calls

Approved: March Meeting Notes

No approved notes from April meeting, due the fact that the April meeting was not posted.

ON-GOING/STATUS:

1. Proposed Community Center
*Walk through will be scheduled upon completion
No date yet.*

2. Town Hall Accessible Entrance:
Still awaiting updated architectural plans.

3. Water & Sewer Bldg.: (Old Thayer Library)
No update.

4. Transition Plan (TP):
Russ Forsberg will e-mail the TP to all members of the C.O.D.

5. Parks & Recreation
 - *Highland Playground shade system & missing swing harnesses: Chris will look into issues.*
 - *Bus issue: All public notices will be posted with information on how an individual with special accommodations can request an accessible bus for a particular event.*
 - *Charlotte Rose Playground: HC parking, ramp and walkway along tennis courts are being added; status of removal of barrier unknown*
 - *Water Wheels Beach Access Chair-Barbara will reach out to Nelson Chin regarding the purchasing, storing and training of the beach chair.*

6. Mass Highway's repaving of Route 37:
Chris Griffin spoke to Tom Whalen, it is still being worked on with the state.

7. High School Pool and Rink
Per Chris, they are still in negotiations.

8. Daugherty Gym/MEMA:
Per Tom Whalen, if money is approved they will start the process of hiring an architect.

9. HP Funds:
Per Chris, Ed Spellman will address this issue & speak to Barbara after the budget season ends, after April.

10. Road & Sidewalk:
No update.

11. Advertising and Recruitment for new Board Members:
Per Chris Griffin a letter of intent to join needs to be sent to Mayor Sullivan for approval.

12. Polling Places-Accessibility:
Debra, the Assistant Town Clerk addressed the issue at our meeting. Per Russ Forsberg, the physical accessibility issues are in the "draft" copy of TP for all town polling sites. Churches are not included.
13. Handicap Parking Program/Fraudulent Use of Placard or Plate:
Per Chris Griffin, no update.
14. Richmond Hardware variances:
*Barbara sent letter to Ron Boretti at CIREES, Inc. on 4/24/14
As of today, had not received response.*
15. Mass Office on Disabilities/Community Access Monitor Program (Oct. 22-23/2014)
Barbara is working with Chris Becker (MOD) to organize this event.
16. BHA-Walk through of Heritage Drive & Roosevelt Housing complexes
C.O.D. needs to reach out to Lauren Murphy to set up a date & time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Monatiquot School- Per Barbara Tennison, Superintendent Murray spoke to Peter Kress. The plan is to install an internal ramp in order to join the two wings of the school. It will be similar to the modification done at the Flaherty Elementary School. Russ Forsberg suggested that Barbara forward the list of recommended modifications from the drafted transition plan.

Public Notices when accessibility is compromised in a public town building -
Who is responsible in notifying the public when elevators in public town buildings are down due to repair?
Per Chris Griffin, notices are posted through the town website and reverse 911 calls can be made. Employees can also be notified via email if there is a problem. Barbara suggested that signs be posted outside of the building notifying the public and to also list a phone # to call if they need immediate assistance.

NEXT MEETING IS MONDAY JUNE9, 2014

(RT 5/16/2014)