

# COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES OCTOBER 5, 2015 MINUTES

## In Attendance

**Board members:** Barbara Tennison, Crystal Evans-Pradhan, Jennifer Shaw  
Judy Coletta, Lynn Vaillancourt

**Building Dept. Liaison:** Erik Erskine

**Mayor's Liaison:** Chris Griffin

**Town Council Representative:** Shannon Hume

**Meeting Opened:** 6:03 PM      **Meeting Adjourned:** 7:16PM

**Approved:** September meeting notes: Motion to Approve 5-0-2

## **September Phone Calls Received:** 2 calls

1. 300 Granite Street complaint of automatic door opener not working. Grossman Property Mgmt. Company was notified and as of 10/2 Barbara had not heard back from them, but they were aware of the door issue and were working on it.
2. Assistance requested by Skyline Drive resident to assist her with an ADA accommodation request for an external ramp at the resident's apartment building.

**Budget:** \$36,937.55

## **Town Buildings:**

Transition Plan: Awaiting follow up from Mayor Sullivan

Town Hall/Old Thayer Library: Town Hall - 1<sup>st</sup> Floor restrooms are being modified to make them HC accessible. COD is concerned with the long route from the parking area to the Town Hall with the design plans and wanted to see a new design. Per Christine Stickney, CPC didn't like the most up to date architectural design and did not like the idea of using CPC funds to determine a preliminary design and cost for the redesign of the plans.

Daugherty Gym: No update

BEMA: No update

Braintree Athletic Complex: Received a small scale version of the architectural plans. Awaiting copy from Russ of the complete plans.

**Town Parks & Recreation:**

Highlands Playground: Per Nelson Chin (10/02), the new swing harnesses have been ordered for the Highlands and Charlotte Rose playgrounds

Conservation Land/Eaton Pond No update

**Streets and Roads:**

SeeClickFix App: Per Chris G.: Mike Coughlin and Chris viewed a demonstration through the software company using the town of Randolph as an example. They would like to look at other software that offers the same type of app before making any decisions

Snow Removal: No update

The Home Aid Project: No update

**Miscellaneous:**

Handicap Parking Program: No update

Fraudulent use of HP placard: No update

Disability Handicap Indicator Program: No update

Silent 911 Status Update: No update

Braintree Housing Authority: No update

Advertising of HP Funds: No update

Wheelchair Accessible Taxi: Tabled

Facebook Page Status: Page is all set to be launched

Social Media Campaign: Crystal Evans-Pradhan will research pricing

**Voting:**

Election ballot call button update: Per Barbara, no update

Polling Places updates: Per Jim Casey 10/02 all polling place updates have been completed

**New Business:**

**Open Meeting Law Amendment 8/11/15** – Board voted on 9/8/15 and approved the amendment to the Open Meeting Law which allows for the Commission on Disabilities board members throughout Massachusetts to participate in board meetings remotely without the Mayor’s approval. 4 – 0 – 3

\* **ADA Coordinator position** *\$2580 JAN-JUNE 2016 Tc approved? Shannon getting back to me as to what was agreed to go forward*  
Position to be funded through the HP Parking Fines revenue at an hourly rate of \$22 @ 15 hrs. a week = \$330.00 a week, with an approx. start date of Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>, it will be approx. \$11,220 for this fiscal year (34 weeks). Motion to create the ADA Coordinator position 5-0-2  
Also, a request for office space for C.O.D. files.  
Concerns/Recommendations: Will the board have any input as to the hiring of the person or on the job performance of the person hired for the position? Yes, per Mayor Sullivan, Barbara T. will work with the HR Director throughout the hiring process.

**300 Granite Street (Old Fidelity Bldg) by the Mall**

The automatic door opener has not been working for some time. The automatic door openers are not required by law, but Barbara did make a courtesy call to the Grossman Property Mgmt. company on 10/02 to get a timeframe as to when they would be in working order again. They think they have an idea what could be causing the issue, but they have to do some more investigating. They have determined that the power is getting cut off, but just haven’t figured out what is causing it. So as of Friday, the door was working again. Grossman’s will call me when they have determined and fixed the problem.

**ADA Accommodation Request**

An accommodation request from a resident of a condominium complex on Commercial Street for walk way railings was received via our hotline. Barbara met with the Mgmt. company on Thursday, October 1. It was determined that the walkway the resident is using is up to code, there were no ramps, nor steps, and no physical obstruction for the resident to walk safely from the building to his vehicle. The resident was more concerned about what if he did happen to fall, how would he get up? The resident does use a walker.

**Ivory Street Corridor Study – Visioning Session, Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> – Town Hall  
Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)**

How could the area around the Red Line Station along Ivory Street (from Best Buy to the RMV) better meet the needs of the town over the next year, 5 years, and 10+ years?

**Town Council Liaison to the Comm. On Disabilities**

The commission's email reminder for the monthly meeting notices will be emailed to Mike Owens and Shannon Hume each month.

**South Shore Plaza**

Sidewalk near CVS: structure blocking sidewalk and making access to the mall entrance difficult and impassable for "All". Complaint filed with Simon Management, per the construction company the obstruction will be dismantled.

**Statistic**

By 2030, 1 in 5 Braintree residents will be over 65, per a study completed by the MAPC (Metropolitan Area Planning Council)

**NEXT MEETING NOVEMBER 2, 2015 – FLETCHER HALL**

(BT 10/06/15)