COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

Weymouth, MA Remote Meeting via W

Remote Meeting via Webex Wednesday, December 08, 2021 at 6pm Meeting Minutes



PRESENT:

Hank Goldman, Chairperson

Richard Johnson

Ron Evans

LaurieAnn Yeisley-Drogin

Mary Hagearty

NOT PRESENT:

John MacLeod, Appointed Town Official

Jonathan Blaisdell

ALSO PRESENT:

Sue McDonough, ADA Coordinator

Patricia Fitzgerald, Recording Secretary

State of Emergency Message and meeting information:

Due to Governor Baker's Emergency Declaration to support the state's response to COVID-19, and per Mayor Hedlund's Emergency Declaration for the Town of Weymouth, the Commission on Disabilities will meet remotely.

Topic:

Commission on Disabilities (COD)

Time:

December 08, 2021 6:00PM

The online link and dial-in instructions were provided 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Chairman Goldman called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

Minutes were moved to later in the meeting.

Standing Items:

ADA Coordinator Report:

Ms. McDonough said she was unable to attend the November *Beal Park Feasibility/Design* meeting, but she listened to the recording. She said she submitted Ron Evans' suggestion that Bridge Street should not be available so that people are forced to use the crosswalk. She told the members that:

- Nothing except the skate park was taken into consideration
- With lots of housing in area, the skate park would bring safety issues
- The skate park is not a fair idea and will cause congestion in the area

Ms. McDonough said the park should be multi-use for the entire neighborhood.

Chairman Goldman said O'Sullivan Park would be a safer meeting location.

Due to the spike in Covid, it was suggested the next meeting (December 22nd) be held on-line.

Draft Minutes

SEPAC Report:

Chairman Goldman said he attended the December 5th meeting; an advocate for basic rights was present to discuss certain town push-backs.

Taken out of order:

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Evans, to approve the November 10, 2021 minutes as written.

5-0-0 unanimous rollcall vote

Old Business:

Chairman Goldman said the documents from Jeff Dougan, Mass. Office on Disabilities, have been sent to the members.

New Business:

Ms. Yeisley-Drogin asked what to do with old wheel chairs; she was referred to Elder Services.

Chairman Goldman asked if there is no other accessible park in Weymouth, other than Pingree.

Ms. McDonough said there is not a single park that is fully accessible and thinks the town should be pushed for accessible parks.

Ms. Yeisley-Drogin said the owner of the Gagnon Park woods (in exchange for billboard) will be donating land to the town; she thinks that would make for an accessible park for special need children.

Ms. McDonough said the ADA component is mandated on all town projects and accessibility is much greater than it was eight years ago.

Ms. McDonough requested all members review the documents from Mr. Duggan to see what information they want added to the web site.

Announcements:

-Next SEPAC meeting: unknown

-Next COD meeting: January 12, 2022

Adjournment:

Draft Minutes

Motion made by Member Yeisley-Drogin, seconded by Member Johnson, to adjourn at 6:45p.m.

5-0-0 Unanimous rollcall vote

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Fitzgerald

Hank Goldman, Chairman