COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

Weymouth, MA Remote Meeting via Webex Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 6pm

Meeting Minutes



PRESENT:

Hank Goldman, Chairperson

Richard Johnson

Ron Evans

Jonathan Blaisdell

LaurieAnn Yeisley-Drogin

John MacLeod, Appointed Town Official

NOT PRESENT:

Mary Hagearty

ALSO PRESENT:

Sue McDonough, ADA Coordinator

Patricia Fitzgerald, Recording Secretary Jeffrey Dougan, Mass. Office on Disabilities

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:

October 13, 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 6:04pm.

Standing Items:

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Member Yeisley-Drogin, seconded by Member Johnson, to approve the Sept. 8, 2021 minutes as written.

6-0-1 vote; John MacLeod abstained

Guest Speaker:

Jeffrey Dougan of MOD (Mass. Office on Disabilities) spoke about some of MOD's programs and services and provided some new information to the commission:

- Client Assistance Program
- They are the Mass. ADA Coordinator (to ensure compliance with state and federal laws)

Draft Minutes

- Community Services Unit (brochure will be sent to the COD office)
- Provides technical guidance and training
- Hearings are not recorded (to create a safe environment)
- Two Mass. General Laws allow commissions to collect some of the parking fines; the fines can be put towards municipal related projects
- Disability Rights Laws in Massachusetts will be updated soon
- Main duties of the COD: advise, review, research and coordinate
- Municipal ADA Improvement Grants are available

Mr. Dougan also spoke on:

- 82 Action Guide for Local Government (ADA & Title 2 Requirements) a good resource
- Title II Action Guide (ADA checklist for existing facilities)
- Enforcement DOJ can do a visit and can ask to see grievances and a self-evaluation transition plan
- State wide IT accessibility services contract that Weymouth can use
- Handicapped Parking Regulations: up to 100 spaces would require 4 handicapped parking spaces (closest to the entrance); one in six accessible spaces needs to be van accessible.

Mr. Dougan said he would check Mass General Laws to see if police are permitted to enter private property for reasons of parking enforcement.

Mr. Dougan left at 7:11pm.

John MacLeod left at 7:15pm.

ADA Coordinator Report:

Ms. McDonough reported that:

- Feasibility Design meeting: October 28th at 6:30pm. COD members have been asked to attend.
- Please provide feedback on recent changes to the website

SEPAC Report:

Chairman Goldman was not able to attend the October 5th meeting.

Old Business: none

New Business: none

Draft Minutes

Announcements:

-Next SEPAC meeting: October 1, 2021(?)

-Next COD meeting: , 2021

Adjournment:

Motion made by Member Johnson Blaisdell, seconded by Member Evans, to adjourn at 7:20p.m.

6-0-0 Unanimous rollcall vote

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Fitzgerald

Hank Goldman, Charman