

APPROVED

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COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

Tufts Library, Butterfly Room

2013 APR -1 AM 8:37

December 18, 2013

Minutes

PRESENT:

Lisa Jennings, Chairman
Richard Johnson
Ron Evans
Hank Goldman
~~Robert Conlon~~ *RC*
Gerry Begonis

NOT PRESENT:

Maria Flynn
Susan Kelly-Liscombe
~~Robert Conlon~~ *RC*

ALSO PRESENT:

Susan McDonough
Jeff Dougan, MA Office on Disability

Chairman Jennings called the November 20, 2013 meeting of the Commission on Disabilities to order at 7:00PM.

ADA COORDINATOR REPORT/UPDATE

Ms. McDonough reported the following updates:

- a) Hamilton School window and door replacement has been completed. All accessibility renovations went off without a hitch and we finished significantly ahead of schedule.*(aprox. One month)
- b) Fogg Library:
 - Elevator - Cab finishes have been selected and it is being constructed offsite at this time. Elevator pit and shaft are complete and elevator cab is due to be delivered on December 23rd. Upon delivery of the cab we will continue with installation and finishing of surrounding area. We now anticipate a completion date of February 1st 2014.
 - Unisex Bathrooms – Have been completed at this time. All tile and fixtures have been installed. Both restrooms are unisex and meet all ADA standard
 - Circulation Desk - Reworking of historical circulation desk has been completed and we now have a roll up station built into the left side for accessibility as per our original plan.
 - ADA entrance and ramp area site work has been completed. Concrete footings and walls have been poured. Brick paving system has been completely installed.
 - Parking area has been completed with base and finish coat. We will be lining out spots for parking as soon as the top coat of asphalt is completely cured. There will be two HP spots located directly adjacent to the entrance to the new Torrey Street plaza which leads to the lower level entrance. The completion date is currently on schedule for February 1, 2014.

OPEN COD MEMBER POSITION

Chairman Jennings stated there is still a seat open on the Commission.

MINUTES

Mr. Evans made a MOTION to APPROVE the minutes of Nov 20, 2013 as corrected. Mr. Goldman SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

FOGG LIBRARY

Chairman Jennings noted that Library Director, Rob McLean had emailed about the rolling cart/walker donation. They are grateful for the donation from Mr. Hank Goldman which they will use for the FOGG Library building. They will not need any additional walkers.

MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE ON DISABILITY; JEFF DOUGAN

Chairman Jennings introduced Jeff Dougan , Assistant Director for Community Services, Massachusetts Office on Disabilities (MOD). Mr. Dougan can be reached at jeff.dougan@state.ma.us

Mr. Sougan offered the assistance of Chris Becker, Access Specialist, at MOD to schedule a site visit of the Fogg Library before releasing the contractors. Chris.r.becker@state.ma.us Chris can also assist with any schools needing an ADA assessment, including for voting accessibility.

Mr. Dougan discussed handicapped parking, signage, violations and fines, and potential use and funding of police details.

Mr. Dougan offered support and assistance to Ms. McDonough in addressing snow removal questions and complaints.

Mr. Dougan reviewed and offered handouts regarding:

MA General Laws: Chapter 40, Section 8J, which states: Such commission shall (1) research local problems of people with disabilities; (2) advise and assist municipal officials and employees in ensuring compliance with state and federal laws and regulations that affect people with disabilities; (3) coordinate or carry out programs designed to meet the problems of people with disabilities in coordination with programs of the Massachusetts office on disability; (4) review and make recommendations about policies, procedures, services, activities and facilities of departments, boards and agencies of said city or town as they affect people with disabilities; (5) provide information, referrals, guidance and technical assistance to individuals, public agencies, businesses and organizations in all matters pertaining to disability; (6) coordinate activities of other local groups organized for similar purposes.

Said commission shall keep records of its meetings and actions and shall file an annual report which shall be printed in the city or town annual report and shall have at least ten meetings annually.

Said commission shall consist of not less than five nor more than nine members. In cities, the members shall be appointed by the mayor, subject to the provisions of the city charter except that in cities having a Plan D or Plan E form of government said appointments shall be by the city manager, subject to the provisions of the charter, and in towns they shall be appointed by the selectmen, except towns having a town manager form of government, in which towns appointments shall be made by the town manager, subject to the approval of the selectmen and except towns having a town council form of government, the

town manager. A majority of said commission members shall consist of people with disabilities, one member shall be a member of the immediate family of a person with a disability and one member of said commission shall be either an elected or appointed official of that city or town. The terms of the first members of said commission shall be for one, two or three years, and so arranged that the term of one-third of the members expires each year, and their successor shall be appointed for terms of three years each. Any member of said commission may, after a public hearing, if so requested, be removed for cause by the appointing authority. A vacancy occurring otherwise than by expiration of a term shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as an original appointment. The chairperson and other officers shall be chosen by a majority vote of said commission members.

Said commission may receive gifts of property, both real and personal, in the name of the city or town, subject to the approval of the city council in a city or the board of selectmen in a town, such gifts to be managed and controlled by said commission for the purposes of this section.

MA General Laws: Chapter 40, Section 22G, which states in part: Any city or town which has accepted the provisions of section J is hereby authorized to allocate all funds received from fines assessed for violations of handicap parking in said city or town to the commission on disabilities. Funds so received shall be deposited by the city or town treasurer in a separate account and shall be used solely for the benefit of persons with disabilities.

ADA Title II & Title II Revised Regulations Fact Sheet Series

ADA Checklist for Readily Achievable Barrier Removal

Fact Sheet 4: Tax Incentives for Improving Accessibility

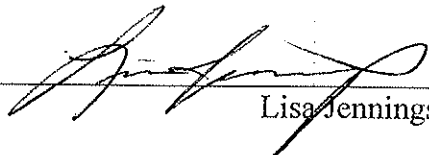
Disability Rights Laws in Massachusetts booklet

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:20PM, there being no further business the committee adjourned.

Lisa Jennings
Chairperson

Approved by:



Lisa Jennings, Chairman

Dated:

1-15-2014

