

APPROVED

COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES  
Tufts Library, Butterfly Room  
March 19, 2014  
Minutes

RECEIVED  
TOWN OF WEYMOUTH  
TOWN CLERKS OFFICE  
2014 MAY 28 AM 8:53

**PRESENT:**

Lisa Jennings, Chairman  
Richard Johnson  
Hank Goldman  
Ron Evans  
Robert Conlon  
Francesco Hladysz

**NOT PRESENT:**

Maria Flynn  
Susan Kelly-Luscombe  
Gerry Begonis

Chairman Jennings called the March 19, 2014 meeting of the Commission on Disabilities to order at 7:00PM.

**INTRODUCE NEW MEMBER**

Chairman Jennings introduced the newest COD member, Francesco Hladysz. Mr. Hladysz stated he has live in Weymouth all his life and would like to be more involved with helping special education children.

**FOGG LIBRARY**

Chairman Jennings stated she would like to discuss what has transpired with the improvements at Fogg Library regarding ADA compliance.

Mr. Goldman stated he emailed Ms. McDonough suggesting the free ADA audit to be performed by the State on the Fogg Library prior to Town of Weymouth signing off on the work that was done. Mr. Goldman stated he did not receive a reply. He sent his note again and received the following response:

*Hi Lisa,*

*Construction is complete on the Library. Currently last of the punch list items are being worked on and will be complete by 3/26/14. The Library is scheduled to open on schedule for 3/28/14.*

*Sue McDonough*

Mr. Conlon stated he will speak with Mr. MacLean and state that a COD member will accompany the State ADA auditor to the Library for this free audit (within next two days), what is a good date and time?

**ACCESSIBILITY ISSUE AT MITCHELL FIELD**

Chairman Jennings stated she received a letter from a citizen regarding accessibility issues at Mitchell Field; the letter was addressed to Mayor Kay and reads as follows:

*Dear Mayor Kay,*

*For the last three years I have been taking my children to Mitchell field located next to Abigail Adams Middle School for sports. I have witnessed firsthand many elderly and handicapped people trying to gain access to the field. The only entry options are down a very rickety slippery set of stairs or a very dangerous slope at the end of the field. Even for those who are not handicapped, the stairs are very treacherous. Most people because of these conditions are confined to watching the games from the parking lot. Most recently, I unfortunately witnessed someone getting injured trying to get down the slope.*

*I would like to know how I can get the "ball rolling" on getting handicapped access to the field. What steps can I take and what can I do to get a project like this done? Is there Government grant money? Could an option possibly be to gain access through Verizon parking lot with the understanding it would be used by handicapped only? It may even be a great project for an Eagle Scout.*

*I would like to meet with you and possibly include by Cub Scout Den. It is part of a requirement that they learn how our Town Government works as this is Citizenship Month.*

*I am looking forward to a favorable response.*

*Sincerely,*

*John Reichardt*

Mr. Johnson asked can COD add this staircase into the ADA Plan.

**SEPAC**

Chairman Jennings stated she received a question from Michelle Quinn; can Weymouth build an accessible playground. Chairman Jennings suggested to Ms. Quinn that BOSSnet has a website and anyone can put up an idea for a community project "like this one". Then people log in and donate their products, time and services.

**LOVELL PLAYGROUND - LEGION FIELD**

Chairman Jennings stated she intends to speak with Mayor Kay regarding ADA accessibility and handicap uses at these two parks and the new design plans for these two parks.

**HANDICAP PARKING AT WEYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL**

Mr. Goldman asked Chairman Jennings if she could also speak to Mayor Kay about relocating the handicap parking areas when they re-paint the parking lot at Weymouth High School.

### **HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR**

Chairman Jennings stated the Health and Wellness Fair is being held on April 17, 2014 at the Weymouth Elks from 1:30-4:30. If any COD member would like to volunteer to "man" the COD table please let Chairman Jennings know.

Mr. Goldman made a MOTION to appropriate up to \$500 in funds to be used for public events for new materials such as (displays, easels, table, tent, etc.) Mr. Conlon SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

### **MEN'S GROUP, AGES 18-30**

Mr. Hladysz stated he would like to start a Men's Group for men ages 18-30 with disabilities to discuss everyday life, problems and how to deal with them; for example how to take public transportation.

Mr. Hladysz stated he needs some help getting the space for the meeting that will not cost. Additionally, a donation of small amount of food and drink for each meeting would be appreciated. Mr. Hladysz would like this group to meet once a month preferably on the last Monday of the month 7:30-8:30pm

### **REVIEW OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED at MEETING WITH MAYOR KAY/CHAIRMAN JENNINGS**

- Snow removal on Route 3A
- Access at voting places
- Parking at WHS
- Housing handicap wait list
- Enforcement program (police detail - audit all buildings in town)
- Accessibility icon project
- Internship for COD
- Feasibility study with Chapman Middle School (remind Mayor Kay it will also need to come up to current ADA codes)
- FREE ADA audit for Fogg Library

### **AWARD**

Chairman Jennings stated COD received an award from BOSSnet and Prom Angels thanking COD for their donations.

### **MINUTES**

Mr. Johnson made a MOTION to APPROVE the minutes of January 15, 2014. Mr. Goldman SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED. Mr. Hladysz abstained.

**SEPAC DONATION**

Mr. Evans made a MOTION to APPROPRIATE \$300 to SEPAC for the Federation for Children with Special Needs IEP. Mr. Johnson SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**NEXT MEETING**

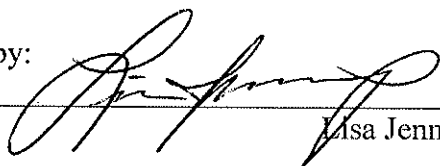
The next meeting of the Commission on Disabilities will be held on April 16, 2014 at 7:00pm.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:30PM, there being no further business the committee adjourned.

Christine Callbeck  
Recording Secretary

Approved by:



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Lisa Jennings, Chairman

Dated:

5/21/14