

Northbridge Disability Commission Minutes
January 22, 2024

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Members Present: Dan O'Neill, Bruce Frieswick, Washa Liu (via Zoom), Jill Patnode-Krause

NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK
LARA D. ZYWIEN

Meeting called to order at 6:38 PM.

1. Minutes of the December 11th meeting were accepted.
2. MOD Updates
 - a. Feb. 13th- Quarterly Tea with MOD: Architectural Access Updates- 1-2 PM
 - b. Feb. 22nd- Reasonable Accommodations and Modification Requests in Housing Workshop 12-2PM
 - c. April 10- Disability Connections: A MOD Networking Event
 - d. Sept. 18- Reasonable Accommodation and Modification Requests in Housing Workshop 5:30PM-7:30 PM
3. Sutton Street sidewalks- All mailboxes in compliance except #183 where the mailbox overhangs and cuts into the 36 inch accessibility. The post is 36 inches from the inner edge of the sidewalk
4. Senior Center- no update on building survey
5. New fire dept- The architects submitted a variance to the Architectural Access Board. The preliminary case was ruled in on December 11th. Bruce is waiting to find out when the administrative discussion begins
6. Linwood Playground-Jeff Dougan from MOD needs more updated diagrams and pictures submitted.
7. Pedestrian Crosswalk at Route 122 in Linwood - Bruce emailed Neil Boudreau, the Assistant Administrator for Traffic and Safety to request information about the HAWK system. Bruce will submit an application to the Worcester and Boston branches
8. Lake Terrace-Bruce pulled out information for Title 2 about ramps and curb cut out requirements. The direct walkway between apt 32 and the parking lot does not have a curb cut out. Bruce isn't sure if the building is grandfathered in.
9. Mission Statement- Bruce formulated a draft which was reviewed and edited by Dan and Jill at the meeting. Washa later made additional editing to the document and it was submitted for the annual town report.
10. Grants for the upcoming grant cycle- Bruce mentioned thinking about grants for updates to town properties to make them more compliant. We would apply for a state grant in July.
11. Dan questioned if any of the presidential candidates have voiced opinions about disability issues.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Next meeting is February 12, 2024

Approved 2/12/24