

Date and Time: 04/08/19 10:07:00 AM  
 Location: Thompson Room, Flynn Building, 278 Old Sudbury Road, Sudbury  
 Members Present: Kay Bell (KB), Doug Frey (DF) Pat Guthy (PG), Susan Iuliano (SI),  
 Lisa Kouchakdjian (LK)  
 Members Absent: Susan Rushfirth (SR)  
 Others Present: Bill Barletta, Director of Facilities;  
 Janie Dretler, Liaison for Board of Selectmen (present for part of meeting)  
 Public Commenters:

### **Convene**

The meeting came to order at 10:07 AM. A quorum (at least a majority of 4) was present.

- **Assign clerk to take minutes**  
 Kay Bell volunteered to record minutes of the commission meeting.
- **Discussion with Bill Barletta, Director of Facilities**  
 PG welcomed Mr. Barletta (BB) and gave a summary of the current commission's work to date. She expressed that the COD would like to help apply for a MA Office on Disability (MOD) planning grant to help Sudbury conduct its required Self Evaluation and Transportation Plan.

Mr. Barletta (BB) served at Fitchburg State University in the Capital Planning and Maintenance Department where he was involved in the statewide audit and plan for access. In so doing he worked closely with state agencies to provide access to facilities for people with disabilities. The scope of BB's work in Sudbury encompasses town property that has four walls and a roof and the approaches to those buildings. Such is differentiated from the scope of Dan Nason's (Director of Public Works) area of responsibility which is all outside property. BB work involves both capital assets (acquisition, maintenance, and disposition) and operational/maintenance concerns.

PG mentioned the concern about the door to the Goodnow Library Makerspace not being ADA compliant, creating an obstacle for patrons with mobility challenges. BB will check into that.

Regarding Sudbury's Self Evaluation and Transportation Plan, BB reported he is on target with an effective, cooperative relationship with town departments and committees and would work with Maryanne Billadeau (one of the two Town ADA coordinators, the other being Mark Herwick, Building Inspector) to apply for a MA Office on Disability planning grant to support the Self Evaluation and Transportation Plan effort.

KB inquired about and suggested the COD participate in the application process and in the implementation of the Self Evaluation and Transportation Plan as well.

BB gave a brief update on the Town Hall renovation project: the ramp providing clear path approach to the front entrance remains part of the plan.

SI suggested that the COD appoint a liaison to the Permanent Building Committee (PBC) which handles building projects for the Town properties . It is good to have one of our number on the Master Plan Steering Committee that is vision oriented, and it would also be good to keep up with the work of the PBC as well.

- **Park and Recreation:** Multiple members noted that the recently released Park and Recreation catalog limited offerings of adaptive program opportunities and minimal information about accessibility of facilities and programming. The chair, PG, will place discussion of Park and Recreation programming on a future agenda.
- **Review, discuss, correct and approve Minutes of the Mar 11, 2019 meeting of the commission**  
A few corrections were noted.

**MSV** SI moved and DF seconded the motion to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Review, discuss, correct and approve Minutes of the Mar 25, 2019 meeting of the commission**  
A few corrections were noted.

**MSV** LK moved and DF seconded the motion to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Transportation Committee:** SI directed the committee's attention to her imminent withdrawal from the COD and indicated that the COD has a voting position on the Transportation Committee. DF volunteered and was accepted to fill the vacancy.

**MSV** LK moved and SI seconded the motion:

To request to have Doug Frey appointed to the Transportation Committee as a representative of the Commission on Disability.  
The motion passed unanimously.

- **Review and amend draft press release**  
Members offered suggestions to incorporate into the article. The inclusion of a photograph was discussed. Where to send the press release was also discussed.

**MSV** LK moved and DF seconded the motion:

The press release is approved as edited. KB will arrange a time and place to take a group photo of members of the COD. KB will send them to Sudbury Town Crier, MetroWest Daily, Action Advertiser, to both the print and online versions, and post them to Sudbury Patch, on online only local information site.  
The motion passed unanimously.

- **Status of access to vocational/technical education opportunities for Sudbury Public Schools and Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School students**

PG attended a community event at which Brad Crozier, Superintendent of SPS, presented information about the budget being presented to Town Meeting in May. Noting that there was no mention of a budget item for vocational/technical education, she inquired and was told by Mr. Crozier that funding is handled by the Town Manager. That being so, there appear to be four cost centers in Sudbury: SPS, LSRHS, the Town, and Voc/Tech education.

PG has been contacted by a middle school family reporting that they and about seven other families received an email from a school counselor indicating that the “preferred school” for voc/tech programs, Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School, may not have space for students from Sudbury. Families were advised to rapidly submit an application to Minuteman Career and Technical Regional High School. The deadline shown on the application had already passed, which was concerning to the families.

Discussion of various aspects of the situation for families seeking this type of education for their children ensued. Uncertainty of placement in desired programs is a fact now that Sudbury is not a member of any regional vocational/technical district. That was not the way things were presented at the time of voting to withdraw from membership in Minuteman.

Members would like to better understand the process of exploring voc/tech options, application, acceptance, and mandates of access to vocational education for Sudbury students. Students leaving elementary school are told to consider their middle school program with their post-middle school plan in mind. In eighth grade students must take action if they wish to pursue a program in a vocational high school. During high school students in both general and special education programs may choose to pursue a vocational program. MA Department of Education oversees and sets parameters for operating vocational regional districts. At the local level it seems to be Town Meeting, the Board of Selectmen, and the Town Manager who manage voc/tech.

SI proposed composing a letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting this issue be placed on their agenda for discussion. A letter was drafted with questions and expressing some urgency in the interest of the families currently seeking admission to vocational programs.

**MSV** SI moved and DF seconded the motion to approve the letter to the Board of Selectmen as drafted. (See attached.) The motion passed with four in favor. LK had left the meeting at 12:50, a few minutes before the vote was taken.

### **Adjourn**

**MSV** PG moved and SI seconded the motion to adjourn at 12:55 PM.  
The motion carried unanimously.

A true copy attest: Kathleen (Kay) F. Bell  
Clerk

May 20, 2019  
Date