

Sudbury Commission on Disability Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: 12/16/19 10:06 AM
 Location: Silva Room, Flynn Building, 278 Old Sudbury Road, Sudbury
 Members Present: Kay Bell (KB), Doug Frey (DF) Pat Guthy, Chairperson (PG), Lisa Kouchakdjian (LK), Caroline Santangelo (CS)
 Members Absent: None
 Public Commenters/Guests: David Correia, Mark Dempsey

Convene: The meeting came to order at 10:06 AM. A quorum (at least a majority of 3) was present.

Agenda Item

1. **Assign clerk to take minutes**

DF volunteered to record minutes.

12. **Town Hall Review and planning**

David Correia, Advocacy Director at MetroWest Center for Independent Living and Mark Dempsey, Access Officer, City of Framingham (and former Access Director for Mass. Office on Disability-MOD) joined us as guests and discussed the 15-year project to make the Framingham Village Hall (VH) accessible. The VH is rented by the City for receptions and rental revenue had dropped 50-70% over the three years pre-renovation because it was not accessible.

We updated them on the Sudbury Town Hall (TH) renovation project and our 12/5/19 meeting with PBC, SHC, SHDC and Facilities Director. Framingham faced many of the same challenges with historical committees in the VH project.

They suggested Sudbury considers walkways versus ramps, as walkways do not require handrails. Walkways require a 20-1 pitch versus 12-1 for ramps.

Walkways made the VH accessible while maintaining the historical fabric of the building.

They also cited Sandwich TH, Ashland TH and Taunton's Courthouse as examples of successful projects in making historical buildings accessible.

Discussed education as key and the importance of Aging in Place and accessibility in Sudbury's future Master Plan project.

PG asked Dave if he'd be willing to meet with other Committees in Sudbury to help with education and he agreed.

5. **Transportation Meeting Discussion**

KB discussed that Uber would not add language regarding wheelchair accessible van (WAV) availability to the contract with Sudbury for the rideshare project. The COD was asked to research which laws existed requiring Uber to do so. DF agreed to contact the Disability Law Center and look into ADA language.

PG will send letter to Transportation Committee stating Transportation Committee should seek legal counsel from attorney.

DF discussed rollout of rideshare project and need for assistance with applications. COD has been asked to assist. KB made motion to communicate to Transportation Committee that the COD is not equipped nor is it our role to handle application support for the rideshare project. DF seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

4. Correspondence with High School re Public Comment

PG mentioned complaint about access to high school due to snow removal shortcomings and comment about difficulty accessing stadium field events for disabled and elderly people. DF will coordinate viewing field with David Correia and getting recommendations for improvements. DF mentioned LS staff does good job trying to make it work.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

7. MOD event in Marlboro- US Census Awareness Event

The MOD event on 12/17/19 was cancelled due to impending storm.

2. Review and Approval of COD minutes of 10/21/19

LK made motion to approve 10/21/19 minutes, KB seconded, motion passed 5-0.

COD will review 12/5/19 minutes at next meeting (1/13/20) and CS will send draft of 11/18/19 meeting for review.

6. COD Website- Traffic Report, Inclusion of Dementia Friendly info and other updates

PG mentioned we're working to have Dementia Friendly info added to our website. Mentioned Council on Aging launched program to help care givers of dementia patients.

PG mentioned visits to our website are tracked via traffic reports. She is looking to get statistics from the Town.

9. Park & Rec brochure

PG pointed out that Park & Rec brochure has very small print throughout and is very difficult to read. PG to write letter to Park & Rec (Director and Chair of Park& Rec Committee) to bring this issue to their attention.

8. Development of Talking Points (i.e. Elevator speech) on ADA Education (Marketing), a town-wide approach

PG and CS will meet in January 2020 to talk about developing these talking points.

11. Vocational/Tech Inquiry. Library Allergy Policy Update

PG asked LK status on who has control of this process. PG suggested sending a letter to outline issues and request resolution as to who has responsibilities for SPS students going to Voc/Tech schools.

PG mentioned no update on Library Allergy Policy as she hasn't heard back from library contact.

10. Review of 2019 Projects/Accomplishments as prelim basis for Town Report Submission

PG requested members of COD provide her with a list of projects/accomplishments to be reviewed at our next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:21 pm.

KB motioned to adjourn meeting at 12:21 pm. CS seconded and the motion passed 5-0.