

Date and Time: 01/13/20 10:04 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)
 Members Absent: Caroline Santangelo (CS)
 Also Present:
 Public Commenters:

Convene: The regular meeting of the Sudbury Commission on Disability (COD) was called to order by Pat Guthy at 10:04 AM. A quorum (at least a majority of 3 of 5) was present.

1. Selection of Meeting Recorder: Kay Bell volunteered to record minutes.

2. Review and Approval of COD Minutes

MSV KB moved, LK seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the 11-18-19 regular meeting of the COD as submitted by CS.

The motion carried unanimously.

MSV LK moved, DF seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the 12-05-19 special meeting of the COD submitted by KB, as corrected, and with the Power Point presentation delivered at the meeting by PG attached.

The motion carried unanimously.

MSV LK moved, DF seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the 12-16-19 regular meeting of the COD as submitted by DF.

The motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Comment No public comment was offered.

4. Update on Transportation Committee DF, member of the Transportation Committee representing the COD reported:

- a) The position of Project Coordinator for the micro transit pilot project has been posted on a variety of platforms and has had no response. The COD will put notification on our web pages as soon as possible.
- b) Progress on implementing the application/vetting process for the micro transit pilot project has been slow, with a small group (about 20) of potential participants being sought first as a beta-test group to work out any problems with the process.
- c) Debra Galloway is seeking and may have located a wheelchair accessible (WAV) van service to provide equal access to the micro transit pilot project.
- d) There has been no progress on establishing a fixed bus stop on Boston Post Road in Sudbury for the Rt. 20 Shuttle pilot commuter bus.
- e) The MetroWest Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA) may be able to expand the Sudbury Shuttle that travels major roads on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting at 8:35 AM – 3:30 PM each week, potentially making it a weekday daily service.

5. Review of Historical Commission (HC) meeting/Town Hall project PG reported:

- a) At the January 7, 2020 meeting of the Sudbury Historical Commission, by invitation, PG presented the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) implications for Town facilities. She stated our opposition to a request for variance for the Town Hall Renovation project that would leave the front entrance open to the public but not accessible to people with disabilities. PG also related aspects of a similar project that has been completed in neighboring Framingham for their Village Hall which has many of the features of Sudbury Town Hall. Framingham's process involved a 15-year collaboration resulting in an accessible front entrance that retains the historical integrity of Village Hall.
- b) At the Jan. 7 meeting the HC voted 4 to 2 in favor of supporting a request for such a variance for the front entrance to Town Hall.
- c) When Craig Blake of the Permanent Building Committee who is ushering the Town Hall Renovation Project learned of the HC vote he contacted PG asking what the COD position is. PG relayed our position, explained the Framingham Village Hall project and the technical assistance we have received from resources at the MetroWest Center for Independent Living (MWCIL). She informed Mr. Blake that the COD will conduct a site visit to the Village Hall in the near future.
- d) PG notes that the developments observed in the Town Hall Renovation Project and other similar projects and situations give strong indications that there is a need for Town leaders and Town staff to learn more about the ADA.

6. Updates

KB reported that on January 6, 2020 the Sudbury Planning Board heard a request from the Camp Sewataro LLC, Manager Scott Brody, of 239 Moose Hill Road, Sharon, Massachusetts, 02067, to increase the upper limit of enrollment from 600 campers per day to 650 campers per day. The request is made to accommodate local families who apply for reduced-rate scholarship placement in the day camp. Much discussion ensued; no decision was rendered; a site visit was scheduled for Planning Board members to inspect the facility. A member asked whether the facilities are ADA compliant. Mr. Brody stated that during the tour given for parties interested in the RFP process the Town Building Inspector said he believed that the facility is compliant. KB stated that her site visits reveal that there seem to be features of the facilities that are not compliant.

- a) **Master Plan Steering Committee** See item c) iv below.
- b) **MOD Self-Evaluation/Transition Plan Grant** The COD has received no word of results of the application.
- c) **Special Town Meeting**
 - i. PG reported that there was woefully inadequate accommodation (simultaneous transcription) available for Sudbury attendees with hearing impairment or other disability. There was only a television screen on a stand at the front on one side of the auditorium and the general public was seated there.
 - ii. PG made inquiries of STV, who usually set up two large projection screens, and then she informed the Town Meeting Moderator of the problem. The Moderator

announced the availability of the small screen and asked that those who did not need the transcription vacate their seats for those who do.

- iii. PG and KB will discuss with Town staff the need to prepare accommodations for all Town residents who want to participate in Town Meeting and elections. They will gather information about technical and potential financial assistance in furnishing reasonable accommodations.
- iv. This incident and others indicate a lack of sensitivity and awareness. Upon discussion it was the consensus of the commission that PG should seek to have the COD scheduled to address the Board of Selectman and to bring expert training (either from the MWCIL or MA Office on Disability) to the Master Plan Steering Committee as soon as possible to inform their process.

d) Accessible parking/accessible route at L-S

KB received input from a community member attending an adult activity at Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School on January 2, 2020. Once again the accessible route from accessible parking spaces in the “teacher area” has not been kept clear of snow/ice.

e) Vocational/Technical education issue...

f) Web page traffic report

KB will look back at history of requests and get back in touch with Mark Thompson to arrange for periodic reports.

g) Contribution for Unified games

- i. Members discussed the event that provides the opportunity for students with disabilities in Sudbury Public Schools to select a buddy from their school to accompany them to an athletic field day in Framingham where they meet up with students from around the region.

MSV KB moved, LK seconded the motion to allocate funds in the amount of \$250.00 to Sudbury Public Schools Special Education Parent Advisory Council to defray expenses incurred for SPS students to participate in the Unified Games of 2020.

The motion carried unanimously.

- ii. KB will publicize the event and COD support of it on the COD web pages.

h) Parks and Recreation brochure

PG noted that the printed brochure is in such a small font size and dense layout that it is not accessible to people with low vision or even just mature vision.

o) Membership

- i. PG noted that the COD has four open seats and much work to do. The COD needs to do some recruitment and may look to veteran public servants who may have become available after retiring from other committee work. Jack Ryan recently left the Council on Aging having served through a full set of terms and might be such a candidate.
- ii. Current member, Caroline Santangelo, has had a change of her schedule. The consensus of the commission is to adapt our meeting schedule to make it possible for

CS, a member who brings important talents and commitment, to continue to attend a substantial fraction of COD meetings.

7. List of 2019 accomplishments

PG called for members to submit to her their notes on liaison activity and any other activity, work or meetings on behalf of the COD and its mission. PG will use the input to write the COD submission to the Sudbury Town Report 2020.

8. Plan for Town-wide Educational Initiative on ADA compliance

- a) CS and KB will work together to develop a communications package.
- b) Incorporating such messages as: The ADA is not a suggestion; it's a civil rights law; and it's the right thing to do.
- c) Other efforts involving outside resources for assistance/training may be needed.
- o Additional incoming topics:
 - a) The MA Architectural Access Board sent materials related to a MA Department of Transportation request for variance related to their curb cut remediation transition plan project proposed for the intersection of Boston Post Road/Rt. 20 and Massasoit Avenue. Kay presented site visit photos. The consensus of the commission is to oppose the request for variance. There was great concern expressed for the adjacent route which is beyond inaccessible to the point of dangerousness. KB will send notice to MAAB.
 - b) A community member brought to the attention of LK a problem with accessible route from the parking lot to a dental office at Millbrook Park, an office park on Boston Post Road. LK and KB presented photos from a site visit showing that a number of issues with compliance exist. The COD tabled the topic to a future time.

[NEXT COD MEETING: Monday, February 10 at 10:00 AM a regular meeting.]

Adjourn

MSV LK moved and DF seconded the motion to adjourn at 12:03 PM.
The motion carried unanimously.

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

February 10, 2020