

Date and Time: 4/23/20 6:30 pm

Location: via Zoom Webinar

Members Present: Kay Bell (KB), Doug Frey (DF) Pat Guthy, Chairperson (PG), Lisa Kouchakdjian (LK), Caroline Santangelo (CS)

Members Absent: None

BOS Liaison Attendee: Janie Dretler

Public Commenters/Guests: Maia Proujansky-Bell

PG called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM. A quorum (at least a majority of 3) was present. DF volunteered to take minutes.

(Agenda Item #)

(1) The March 10th meeting minutes were reviewed and LK motioned to approve, KB seconded and the 3/10/20 minutes were approved by a 5-0 vote.

(2) PG led a review of outstanding items by COD meeting dates, as depicted in the chart below prepared by KB.

Comments included:

- Progress made on food and beverage policy at Goodnow Library
- Vocational Education issue still open. LK suggested PG reach out to Town Manager to review issue.
- Transportation Committee has not met recently. Questions that need to be addressed include: 1. what is the status of the pilot program, 2, with pandemic, what are we doing to step up transportation support for residents, 3. has a representative for the MWRTA Advisory Council been selected?
- Adaptive Fitness Equipment, Sewataro and Community Access Monitoring projects on hold
- Communication by Town could be better. COVID raises issues for persons with disabilities (PWD) and available resources (i.e. vaccines).

- Town Hall renovation project on hold
- **(4)** Handicapped parking funds were discussed. LK motioned to revert funds approved for Unified Games (which have been cancelled) back to the COD general account. KB seconded and the motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.
- Town Meeting accessibility project on hold. Next meeting may be in June. Need to accommodate PwD for full access.
- SEPAC not currently meeting and there is no SEPAC representative at LSRHS. PG agreed to reach out to Ellen Joachim discuss special ed at LSRHS. Discussed COVID impact on students, teachers, parents and staff. LK suggested COD support what school administrators try to accomplish and PG suggested COD provide information on the civil rights of PwD. **(8)** Public commentator Maia Proujansky-Bell, SEPAC member, mentioned it was a tough time for parents trying to engage students in remote learning and that we're "building the plane as it's flying. There is a need to recalibrate when students return to physical school". PG asked what the COD could do to help and Maia responded that the COD should provide more information on the rights of PwD..

(5) Self Evaluation and Transition Plan was discussed and it is moving forward. There was a meeting on 3/11/20 with B Barletta , A. Lewis and 2 consultants and PG provided feedback on accessibility issues. The Town website needs to be ADA compliant, for example deaf and blind folks need accommodations to read documents and to access the website. Mark Thompson found a contractor who could update website over time. In December the COD approved funds to pay for the Self Eval & Transition Plan. The question was raised if the COD should consider paying for the website design. PG quoted state regulations that the money must be spent on PwD to be compliant. PG will approach Marianne to see how the COD can help to move this forward. The issue was tabled until the COD had more information. KB to follow up with M Thompson.

(3) PG asked for a vote to support KB's reappointment by the BOS to serve on the COD for a second term. LK moved to have PG write a letter to the COD to consider KB's reappointment to the COD for another term. CS seconded and motion was approved 5-0.

(6) The Commonwealth's Crisis Standard of Care Act was discussed. The passage of Bill S-1640 was discussed which eliminates liabilities for health care workers in triage decisions. The Crisis Standards of Care have been amended by the Governor's office pursuant to several complaint letters, which pointed out discrimination against PwD and other groups.. The revised Standards are now under review by several coalitions with more action to come. PG suggested the COD reach out to the BOS to inform them of the issues. PG to talk with J. Dougan of the MOD regarding this issue and what other towns CODs are doing. DF agreed to research the status of advocacy action vis-a-vis the revised Standards.

(7) The status of other issues i.e. Transportation, Master Plan Steering Committee, Recruitment, and Marketing will be moved to the next COD meeting.

(8) Public Comment was made by M. Proujansky-Bell as described above.

(9) The next meeting is tentatively set for 5/7/20 at 6:30 PM, assuming virtual meeting support is available. A future meeting date of 5/28/20 was discussed as a follow up to the 5/7 meeting.

LK motioned to adjourn the meeting, CS seconded and the motion was approved 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 PM.