

SUDBURY SELECT BOARD

TUESDAY MARCH 2, 2021

(Meeting can be viewed at [www.sudburytv.org](http://www.sudburytv.org))

Present: Chair Janie Dretler, Vice-Chair Jennifer Roberts, Select Board Member Daniel E. Carty, Select Board Member William Schineller, Select Board Member Charles Russo, Town Manager Henry L. Hayes, Jr., Assistant Town Manager/HR Director Maryanne Bilodeau

The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, the meeting was convened at 7:12 p.m., via Zoom telecommunication mode.

Chair Dretler announced the recording of the meeting and other procedural aspects included in the meeting. She acknowledged that the Board had just adjourned in Executive Session.

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

Select Board Roll Call: Carty-present, Roberts-present, Schineller-present, Dretler-present, Russo-present.

*[Note: Other business was conducted prior to the opening of the joint meeting that began at approximately 8:30 PM.]*

**Open a joint meeting with the Commission on Disability (COD) regarding ADA assessment; discussion with representatives from IHDC**

Present: Commission on Disability Members: Chair Pat Guthy, Vice-Chair Kay Bell, Lisa Kouchakdjian, Caroline Santangelo, Doug Frey

IHDC (Institution for Human Centered Design) Representatives: David West and Meghan Dufresne; Town of Sudbury Facilities Director Bill Barletta

Chair Dretler read the motion. Board Member Schineller moved in the words of the Chair. Board Member Russo seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Carty-aye, Schineller-aye, Roberts-aye, Russo-aye, Dretler-aye

VOTED: To open a joint meeting with the Commission on Disability (COD) regarding ADA assessment discussion with representatives from IHDC

Ms. Guthy read to open a joint meeting with the Select Board. Ms. Bell moved in the words of the Chair. Ms. Kouchakdjian seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Bell-aye, Frey-aye, Kouchakdjian-aye, Santangelo-aye, Guthy-aye.

VOTED: To open a joint meeting with the Select Board and representatives from IHDC.

Chair Dretler stated Town Manager Hayes, Assistant Town Manager/HR Director Maryanne Bilodeau and Facilities Director Bill Barletta had been instrumental in the ADA process.

Town Manager Hayes encouraged all to review the Sudbury ADA Self-Assessment, posted on the Town website. He detailed that IHCD would summarize the draft ADA property surveys, and a follow-up presentation regarding prioritization and review of comments was scheduled for later in March.

Mr. West explained the ADA process and noted that many Town buildings/properties were reviewed and hoped that all sites could be ADA compliant within three to five years.

Ms. Dufresne confirmed that the documents were online in draft form; adding that she was looking forward to receiving public comments within the next two weeks.

Mr. West recognized that ADA baseline ADA regulatory standards were being recommended; and confirmed that the Town and COD could work together to go beyond that standard. Vice-Chair Roberts asked if IHCD would be involved in the transition plan. Ms. Dufresne responded that at the next meeting, IHCD would submit the transition plan to the Town with priority recommendations.

Mr. West stated that building entries and exists were of initial importance and IHCD would help in the process and would address any questions.

Ms. Roberts noted that additional review time was needed and inquired if other Town departments/groups could provide feedback as well. Mr. West responded affirmatively.

Board Member Russo suggested that teachers, school nurses, COA members and other interested parties; review the assessments for possible input.

Board Member Schineller asked for example of completed ADA assessments performed in other local communities. Mr. West responded he would provide some examples.

Board Member Carty stated that a two-week review period did not provide enough review time and commented that the LSRHS building was a separate entity.

Ms. Bell maintained that many suggested ADA compliance implementations were cost free and could be addressed first.

Ms. Santangelo stressed that prioritization would be especially important and agreed that sufficient review would require more than two weeks.

Ms. Kouchakdjian asked about the purpose of ADA compliance. Mr. West responded that ADA compliance was part of Civil Rights legislation.

Ms. Dufresne emphasized that ADA implementation measures would ensure that the disabled have equal opportunity to participate in activities.

Ms. Kouchakdjian inquired about related costs. Mr. West stated that a cost data base was used, which did not include design expense.

Mr. Frey commented that something as simple as installation of a curb cut, could be extremely helpful for someone in a wheelchair. He emphasized that independence and inclusivity represented civil rights.

Ms. Kouchakdjian asked if the Town should look at an accessibility plan when a new project is being considered. Mr. West stated that IHCD can help with that aspect at the initial planning stage. Ms. Dufresne agreed that an accessibility consultant should be involved at the onset of any Town project.

Ms. Guthy asked if queries could be presented to IHCD. Mr. West responded that IHCD is consulting with the Town and questions must be submitted to Town administration.

Ms. Bell asked about screen readers and accessibility of reports. Mr. West responded said he was not familiar with screen reader information and would reach out to a colleague for more information.

Ms. Guthy agreed that the review and comment period should be extended. Town Manager Hayes confirmed that IHCD was the ADA authority in the region and the Town was committed to advancing ADA improvements.

**Vote to close joint meeting with Commission on Disability (COD) and resume Select Board meeting**

Ms. Guthy motioned to close the joint meeting. Ms. Kouchakdjian seconded the motion. It was on motion 5-0; Bell-aye, Frey-aye, Kouchakdjian-aye, Santangelo-aye, Guthy-aye.

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VOTED: To close the joint meeting.

Chair Dretler read the motion. Board Member Carty moved in the words of the Chair. Vice-Chair Roberts seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Carty-aye, Roberts-aye, Russo-aye, Schineller-aye, Dretler-aye

VOTED: To close the joint meeting and resume the Select Board meeting  
meeting was adjourned at 11:43 p.m.