



## Sudbury Commission on Disability Meeting Minutes Wednesday, February 23, 2022

**Kay Bell, Chair, called the virtual meeting to order with roll call at 7:08 PM**

### **Members Present**

1. Lisa Kouchakdjian, Vice Chair
2. Karyn Jones
3. Liesje Quinto
4. Kay Bell, Chair (left 7:25, returned 7:45 PM)
5. Caroline Santangelo
6. Doug Frey (arrived 7:30 PM)

### **Members Absent**

1. Randi Korn
2. Jane Kline

### **Other Attendees**

1. Peg Espinola, Council on Aging Liaison
2. Jennifer Roberts, Select Board Chair and Liaison
3. Jennifer Pincus, Permanent Building Committee

### **Opening**

1. Kay stated that the meeting is a public virtual meeting that it is being recorded for future viewing and there should be no expectation of privacy. She explained that the agenda and meeting materials are available on the town website and that live transcript captioning is available by selecting that Zoom feature. She asked that if an attendee is to offer public comment that they please state their name and address or position in the Town.
2. Caroline will take the minutes for this meeting.

## Discussion / Possible Action

1. Kay gave information on ADA requirements under Title II for minimum specifications for force required to open doors, the inclusion of automatic opening doors that surpass minimum ADA requirements in plans for restrooms in design plans for Fairbank Community Center (FCC), and (due to cost) the need for the COD to consider priority for locations in the community center for those doors. The Permanent Building Committee (PBC) sent an urgent request for COD's opinion on priority of location for automatic fewer door openers. The plan had been for all restrooms to have them until they learned that the per door cost is estimated to be \$16,000, possibly.
2. Karyn asked about the budget for the FCC. After consideration of not knowing with certainty about cost of each automatic door, the members decided to focus on the key request for minimum number (5) and their locations.
3. Members examined plan drawings and discussed in detail how automatic opening doors figure into access to exercise and fitness activity for people with disabilities. Members recognized and emphasized how difficult and important it is for individuals with disabilities to get good exercise.
4. Though PBC has not indicated automatic door openers for the universal changing rooms (UCRs), members believe it is of utmost importance that the larger UCR have one and that the door between Locker 3 area and the pool have a touchless one. Recently sent information indicates that the doors from the corridors into the locker rooms cannot be automatic opening. Members discussed this a serious obstacle.
5. Jennifer Pincus from the PBC explained that the doors without automatic openers meet MAAB and ADA standards for accessibility based on meeting low force requirements. "Yes, you may have some quadriplegics who are above and beyond, um,...maybe somebody who just has a problem with there legs but there hands work, their arms work. You may have some people who have issues with that. But if you want to put a door opener with a hand wave and a button on every room that they might want to get into you're going to go down a rabbit hole here and we're not going to be able to afford this building." She mentioned that

the doors to all locker rooms will have card readers which require power, so that will be there already, and adding a switch for automatic opening will not require much more expense. However, the doors from the lockers to the pool have no electric power, so would be costly to change to automatic opening, though without the privacy lock, that would be something less than bathroom/changing room door kits.

6. Jennifer explained that originally the plans had no automatic opening doors, but that Kay had asked for them to be considered and the architect was familiar with them, so they were incorporated on all accessible bathrooms. Then the high cost estimate came, and it was clear they had to be reduced to five and the PBC wants the CODs take on location.
7. Kay raised the idea of seeking more funds. Jennifer explained how having the funds in place before the bids go out for this would be important. Kay expressed frustration that the disability community's input has not taken in until so late in the design process. Lisa also elaborated that point.
8. Jennifer explained that PBC was handed the project after the feasibility study with various definitions and constraints in place. They needed to limit the "number of cooks in the kitchen" as the user groups and designers and project managers was a large group. The design and planning get more detailed only at this later phase so the door openers would not have emerged until this phase anyway.
9. In looking at the distribution of five auto opening doors members considered that three at the senior center might be reduced to two and one of those could be placed at the larger universal changing room. That or increase the number to six.
10. Peg Espinosa expressed her personal view supporting that two auto opening doors in the senior center would be OK and the auto opening door for the changing room would be helpful to seniors there. She added that the Council on Aging is interested in writing a letter of support for the request COD has made to include an accessibility statement in the upcoming request for bids on this project.
11. Set of priority options distilled out of discussion:
  - a. Have five bathroom auto openers: move one from the senior area to a UCR.

- b. Have six: seniors keep two and put two into the family UCRs.
- c. Have seven: five remain where they are and put two into the family UCRs.

**Motion:** Doug made a motion to authorize Kay, as chair, to write a letter to PBC with the list of priorities discussed. Karyn seconded the motion.

Discussion to clarify ensued.

- 1. Karyn Jones: Aye.
- 2. Liesje Quinto: Aye.
- 3. Kay Bell: Aye.
- 4. Doug Frey: Aye.
- 5. Caroline Santangelo: Aye.
- 6. Lisa Kouchakdjian: Aye.

**Vote:** 6-0. Motion carried.

Kay asked about the door from the locker 3 area to the pool that had been discussed earlier. Jennifer Pincus asked: If the cost of making that door automatic opening is substantial, is the pool door more important than the UCR door? Karyn and Liesje both believe at least one UCR and the pool door need to be auto open. Jen pointed out adding the pool door mean adding to one to each option on our list – to 6, 7, and 8.

**Motion:** Doug made a motion to strike the prior motion. Caroline seconded the motion.

- 1. Karyn Jones: Aye.
- 2. Liesje Quinto: Aye.
- 3. Caroline Santangelo: Aye.
- 4. Kay Bell: Aye.
- 5. Doug Frey: Aye.
- 6. Lisa Kouchakdjian: Aye.

**Vote:** 6-0. Motion carried.

**Motion:** : Doug made a motion to authorize Kay, as chair, to write a letter to PBC making a recommendation for six automaking opening doors with wave sensors:

1. 1 at recreation area
2. 1 at Sudbury Public Schools
3. 2 at senior center
4. 1 at the larger UCR
5. 1 at door to pool from locker 3 without a lock

Kay seconded the motion.

1. Karyn Jones: Aye.
2. Liesje Quinto: Aye.
3. Kay Bell: Aye.
4. Caroline Santangelo: Aye.
5. Doug Frey: Aye.
6. Lisa Kouchakdjian: Aye.

**Vote:** 6-0. Motion carried.

### **Future Meeting Dates**

1. Kay asked if March 15 at 7:00 PM would work well for a time for Combined Facilities Director, Bill Barletta, to come to discuss the Transition Plan. Most members are available.

### **Adjournment**

**Motion:** Kay made a motion to adjourn. Karyn seconded the motion.

1. Karyn Jones: Aye.
2. Liesje Quinto: Aye.
3. Kay Bell: Aye.
4. Caroline Santangelo: Aye.
5. Doug Frey: Aye.
6. Lisa Kouchakdjian: Aye.

**Vote:** 6-0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kay Bell as Caroline Santangelo is no longer a member.