

Belmont Disability Access Commission

Meeting Minutes: January 11, 2007

Present: Ray Glazier, Joan Hantman, Janet Macdonald, Fran Williams, Laurie Graham (A quorum was present.)

Absent: Kathy Allen, Carole Williams, Gopal Gupta

The meeting was called to order in Conference Room 1 of the Belmont Town Hall at 7:05 pm By Ray Glazier.

1. Meetings, in general, were moved to the 3rd Thursday of the month, but the next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 29, 2007 at 7 pm, due to some scheduling conflicts.
2. Fran motioned to approve the minutes of November 30, 2006. Seconded by Janet, approved by unanimous voice vote.
3. Money for the ASL interpretation for the Deaf at the upcoming Martin Luther King breakfast was approved. A purchase order will be needed if over \$200, if <200, only a bill will be required.

New Agenda items:

4. It was suggested to recruit Belmont Business Access Partners using volunteers or college interns to help raise awareness of access issues within various local businesses. Janet is willing to accompany volunteers to shops, offices, and restaurants. Fran mentioned that many businesses rent property, so there might be some limitations in being able to modify the environment. Committee discussed the general lack of town concern to insure that accessibility is available in all areas. Fran will help to document some outstanding concerns regarding accessibility in various areas, including Willow St., and Janet will document problems on Clafin St. Issues will be addressed with the Selectmen. Suggestions to improve awareness included publishing a book detailing accessible businesses, having postings on the Town website, or having links to ADA documents. Fran motioned to have Janet be the lead person to talk to business owners. Seconded by Joan, approved by unanimous voice vote.
5. Status of the ADA consent decree was discussed. Suggested that Tom Younger attend the next commission meeting. Laurie motioned to send a memo to Tom regarding the March meeting. Seconded by Fran, approved by unanimous voice vote.
6. Status of Senior Center was discussed. Janet said that the center was at a standstill with the architects. Ground has not been broken yet. Center will have accessible public toileting facilities, which the Recreation Department will control.
7. The Lexington Disability Access Commission sent out a memo requesting assistance regarding accessible sidewalk surfaces.
8. Video project was discussed. Ray will finish his memo to Joe Doyle regarding improvements to the video. Joan will view the video this week and give feedback to Ray.
9. Flyers for the Disability Assistance program went out in the mailing with the October electric bills. Several calls have come in. Laurie will make a flyer to hang, and will have the left-over flyers folded for Joan to distribute.
10. Wellington School building is on hold. School Committee does not have the \$54 million funding required.
11. Fran discussed additional ways to remind homeowners about accessibility issues on their property. Suggestions were made to put a notice in the Municipal Light Dept. newsletter highlighting problems and suggestions to alleviate them. Laurie will talk to the Light Department.
12. Fran requested that the committee receive periodic blueprints of upcoming projects for the committee to review.

Recorded as understood and respectfully submitted by Joan Hantman, Secretary

