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DATE: December 14, 2023  
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## **BELMONT DISABILITY ACCESS COMMISSION**

Minutes, Meeting of October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (Held via Zoom)

There was a quorum. In attendance were: Andrew Poulsen, Nan Donald, Macharia Waruinge, Michael MacNamara, Aurora Sanfeliz and Karen Bauerle.

In order to accommodate conflicting schedules, the following are the next two meeting dates are November 15 between 7-8pm and December 13 between 7-8pm.

Needs Tracker:

Wheelworks blocking the sidewalk with bikes for purchase and a tent. Aurora will speak to the Town Manager in an effort to determine the appropriate municipal office to report this ongoing issue to. Karen will inquire with the Belmont Police Department to determine how best to respond. (We discussed Aurora speaking with Wheelworks although I am unsure whether or not we fully resolved the next steps).

Macharia will continue interfacing with the Belmont Public Library and Belmont Garden Club re: including the plot into the master budgetary plan.

Karen reported back that the Town is aware of the need for assistive technologies for hearing impaired members of Town Meeting. Karen will continue outreach to Ellen O'Brien Cushman and further suggest a closed captioning option.

Nan will be the point person for re: uneven sidewalks on Marlboro St. It was suggested that the Traffic Advisory Committee may offer guidance.

Aurora will provide an update at the next meeting about the length of time the crosswalk signal cycle because of concern that the time required to cross an intersection exceeds the allotted time given.

Nan suggested that we as a group remain cognizant of the legal and social landscape of disability broadly speaking. The Disability Policy Consortium can be found at <https://www.dpcma.org/newsletter>

We concluded our meeting with a brief discussion about open meeting law in MA. Nan provided clarity re: conversations outside of DAC meetings while simultaneously permitting organic friendships to develop amongst DAC appointees.

A motion to terminate the meeting was made by Andrew and was unanimously seconded by all of us.

Karen Bauerle