

Belmont Disability Access Commission

Meeting Minutes: November 30, 2006

Present: Laurie Graham, Gopal Gupta, Joan Hantman, Janet Macdonald, Carole Williams, Fran Williams (Associate).

Absent: Kathy Allen, Ray Glazier Patricia Livingstone-Espiet

A quorum was present

The meeting was called to order by Janet Macdonald, Vice-Chair, in Conference Room 1 of the Belmont Town Hall at 7:40 PM.

1. Waverly Woods Housing Development:

Introduction of members of the BDAC as well as guests from the Waverly Woods Housing Development and the architectural group, Affirmative Investment Team.

Judie Feins, member of the Housing Development as well as Belmont Housing Trust gave a history of the site at Trapelo and Mill Streets. Property was deeded to town about 18 months ago; Housing Trust worked with BOS to refine RFP; 6 bids were received and Affirmative Investment Team was selected to develop property.

Explanation of units: 40 affordable, rental units. 10 one bedroom, 20 two bedroom, 10 three bedroom with 60 parking spaces. Twenty-three of the units will be 'flats' with internal stairs; 17 units will be town-houses. Two units will be handicap accessible: one 1 bedroom unit, one 2 bedroom unit; two handicap parking spaces.

Discussion of definition of "accessibility". Group 2A = space is readily available for full access, easily adaptable for those with disabilities. Group 2B = everything is fully accessible; doorways with broader openings; hardware is universally accessible.

Discussion of access from the street. Due to steep grade of property access will be achieved from Waverly Oaks side of property rather than Trapelo Road. Fran suggested that the group speak with McLean re: a walkway along Olmstead Drive across the rear entrance of Shaw's

2. Old Business

Minutes from August 10th approved.

Minutes from September 21st approved as amended

Discussion of membership: BOS has agreed to have discussion of moving Fran Williams from associate member to full member at an upcoming BOS meeting.

Video project: As Ray has been ill, the final memo to Joe Doyle has not been completed. Fran mentioned that Joe is anxious to complete project to the satisfaction of the BDAC.

Disabilities Assistance Project; mailing went out in Municipal Light bills in October. BDAC has received approximately 30 calls, 6 or so offering volunteer services. Laurie will get extras to Joan for distribution in Dr.'s offices and around town.

Wellington Building Committee: no new activity to report

Senior Center: no new activity to report

3. New Business:

Laurie presented request from BAR for financial assistance to help pay for ASL interpreters for MLK breakfast. Motion made to approve funds up to \$200.00 assuming funds are available. Passed unanimously.

Fran suggested that a letter be written to BOS/Tom Younger/Henry Hall asking for BDAC member participation at the inception of building committees. Motion made for Fran to write letter; passed unanimously.

Discussion of secretary: motion made for Joan to be Secretary; Laurie to be alternate if Joan is not present. Passed unanimously

The next meeting was scheduled for January 11th at 7:30 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Recorded as understood and respectfully submitted, Laurie Graham, Secretary, pro temp