

Belmont Disability Access Commission

Meeting Minutes: March 29, 2007

Present: Ray Glazier, Laurie Graham, Gopal Gupta, Joan Hantman, Janet Macdonald, Francis Williams, Carole Williams,
Absent: Kathy Allen, William Rodi, (Associate), Patricia Livingstone-Espiet
Special guest: Tom Younger

The meeting was called to order in Conference Room 1 of the Belmont Town Hall by Ray Glazier.

1. Minutes from the last meeting on January 11, 2007 were approved.
2. Annual Report from 2006 was ratified and approved.
3. Issue regarding the video by Joe Doyle was discussed. Ray reported that Joe is determined to complete the project. Text description for the blind still needs to be written. Ray will host a meeting 4/7 at his residence to discuss the video.
4. Tom Younger will be asking various commission chairs for names of people who have missed at least three consecutive meetings, and will be asking them to step down from their positions so that their absence does not affect the group quorum.
5. Discussed the need to know the status of facility updates.
6. BDAC flyers were put out at the Senior Center. Volunteers will need a CORI check. The Senior Center is willing to assist with this process.
7. Tom Younger mentioned a new hire, Justin, who will be responsible for dealing with the Disability Access Committee's issues, and following up on the outstanding issues of the ADA Consent Agreement. Several commission members will meet with him. Tom will have additional information available by next Monday or Tuesday 4/2 or 4/3/07.
8. The Massachusetts School Board Authority (MSBA) has stated that the cost of the renovations for the Wellington school is extremely high. Renovations may not happen.
9. Janet reported on the Senior Center issues. The planning board is to approve the safety of the turnaround in the driveway. The center is scheduled to break ground by the fall of 2007.
10. The committee has discussed writing a letter to the Belmont business community regarding their accessibility, so that this information can be published. Suggestions included contacting the Belmont-Watertown Chamber of Commerce, new businesses, and those outside the Belmont Center area, as well as the Better Business Bureau.
11. On May 10, there will be an open meeting Training Session for all Town board and commission chairs and others regarding "open meetings." Laurie is willing to go (as a representative for other committees) and Janet is willing to go as a representative of the BDAC.
12. Chenery School is building a walkway to make the courtyard more accessible.
13. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 31, 2007 at 7 pm.
14. Fran moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:30 pm. Approved.

Recorded as understood and respectfully submitted, Joan Hantman, Secretary