

Belmont Disability Access Commission

Meeting Minutes: July 19, 2007

Present: Ray Glazier, Joan Hantman, Janet Macdonald, Francis Williams, Laurie Graham, Nan Donald (Associate)

Absent: Patricia Livingstone-Espiet (Associate), Gopal Gupta, Carole Williams,

Special guest: Justin Poirier (Building Services Department)

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm in the Belmont Town Hall by Janet Macdonald.

1. Introduction of new and present members. Welcome Nan!
2. Discussion with Justin Poirier, Kevin Looney's assistant, with respect to the concerns regarding the consent decree. Currently they are behind in the number of designated handicapped parking areas, and behind in library accessibility issues. \$15 million was spent in renovations to Town buildings. Current concerns include:
 - TTY system- is that per building/division/department?
 - No public office available at the yard
 - For the Water and Highway Department, calls go to the Homer building- where would calls go in an emergency?
 - In the stipulation of settlement, it states that TDD systems were installed. Where are they now?
 - On p.4 #3 of the settlement it mentions that the Town agrees to update the Disability Access Commission annually on the status of renovations- this has never happened
 - A 504 Plan is required, but there are no details regarding this
 - Curb cuts are needed at the High School and should be done before the start of the school year
 - The pool has no bathhouse for those with disabilities
 - Curb cuts problematic at Chenery School (we need a master list of those curb cuts completed and needed)
 - The Town could be at risk for another lawsuit if these issues remain out of compliance Justin will report back to the committee within 6 weeks regarding priority issues of curb cuts and communication of updates.
3. Election of officers:
 - Ray moved to have Secretary/Treasurer position, 2nd by Laurie, approved unanimously
 - Chair person: Ray nominated Laurie, 2nd by Joan, approved unanimously
 - Vice Chair: Laurie nominated Janet, 2nd by Fran, approved unanimously
 - Secretary/Treasurer: Fran nominated Joan, 2nd by Laurie, approved
4. Motion to approve last meeting minutes by Laurie, 2nd by Janet, approved
5. Status of disability awareness video: Joe now has most of his payment. Meeting with him is still pending. A request was made to have him send the video and complete text, but we have received only the current text. Video is still "unacceptable," and final payment will not be made until video is acceptable. Newton police covered a detail when the Belmont police were unavailable. Question as to who is now responsible for paying for the Newton detail.
6. Parking clerk monitors the ADA parking. Motion by Joan to have Laurie contact the Town Treasurer and Parking Clerks to get info regarding the ADA parking status. 2nd by Janet. Approved. Joan will get reports monthly regarding our finances.
7. Disability Access Commission calls have decreased recently. Laurie received a few calls, but callers left incorrect return numbers. Joan put out many flyers over the past 2 months.

Fernald clients may be able to fold the flyers, but would need to get paid a small fee. Committee agreed that this would be OK but we need details on how to set up a payment schedule.

8. Status of Wellington school- nothing happening at the moment.
9. Status of Senior Center- Building committee is ready to send out an RFP to get a contract underway. Parking has been approved by the planning board.
10. Belmont business access survey- tabled at this time.
11. Open meeting report: Issues can not be discussed via emails. No opinions or discussions can take place via email. Emails can contain discussions regarding the scheduling of meetings and agenda. Meetings must be scheduled 48 hours in advance, including Saturday. Room door does not have to be open. Virtual meetings via phone are not allowed. Voting can not be done via email or phone, and absentee ballots are not allowed.
12. Meet Belmont event Thursday, August 23, 2007 from 6-8:30 pm. We have 2 spaces at the table. Laurie and maybe Nan will attend.
13. Next meeting Thursday, August 30, 2007 at 7 pm.
14. Motion to adjourn approved.

Recorded as understood and respectfully submitted by Joan Hantman, Secretary