

2/7/13 Disability commission Meeting

Present: Mary O'Neill, Chairman; Lorraine McLaughlin, Clerk; Lucy Negrone, Vice-Chairman; Jeffrey Nutting, ADA Coordinator; Mike Furilla; Mark Thompson.

Absent: Con Netto, Debbie Bean

The meeting began at 7:05 PM

Presenter: Jeff Dogan, Assistant director for Community Services at the Massachusetts Office on Disability.

- M.O.D is trying to reconnect with disability commissions
- to provide assistance to local commissions
- Passed out materials and explained ADA laws and non-discrimination laws
- Interested in keeping in touch
- Encourages commissions to be proactive; having mutual goals with the town
- Explained Roles of commission members: commission looks at Title two obligations, obligations for cities and towns related to their programs and services to be accessible and non-discriminatory.
- 2010 amendments to ADA laws intended to re-strengthen the law

- An interpreter: can't be a child of an adult
- Service animals: defined as dogs or mini horses, allowed in public
- Wheelchair definition now includes segways
- Building code: anything built after 3/15/12. Any new construction needs to comply with 2010 architectural design standards
- federal law has stricter standards than for parking than state law
- Building inspector can only enforce state codes, not federal

Commissions: Franklin is a city

Mary: girl scouts selling cookies, taking up room for wheelchairs. Blocks access to entrance

Ada code

Building code can't block access

Section 40-HJ

Sets up commissions

Typical goals for a commission:

--improve accessibility to businesses: Small business incentive: business of 30 or less employees earning a million or less eligible for tax credit to improve access.

--Governor initiative transportation

Vehicles

Mass DOT to examine all state owned curb cuts, then they will reach out to towns ask which ones are most important to remedy first.

Route 140 curb cuts.

Old business:

--A motion was made and carried to accept January 2013 minutes

--New members: can have up to 9 members, so two people have applied and names will be submitted to Town Administrator by Commission Chairman.

--A new ADA coordinator has been appointed: Maxine Kinhart

--state ethics training: All members must complete by April and submit certificate to Town clerk

--senior center bathrooms, Paper towel dispenser too high

Recommendations: 42 to 48 inches height

--Gatra Kiesling: Mary working with managers to resolve

--South Station: access to train: Clerk to send question to Jeff Dogan about this issue

NEW BUSINESS:

--A motion was made and carried to submit applicants Mark Thompson and Amy Westerman to Town Administrator to consider membership on Commission

--500 Franklin Village medical building has no automatic door opener. Door is very heavy to open. Tax credit may be a possibility for them to use to purchase door opener.

Building codes covers weight of door pull, Can be up to 15 pounds of pressure.

--automatic door opener is \$1500.00.

--Bjs wholesale club, gas station

Hp spot, person parks there

Mary talked to manager at

BJs who said she would follow up

-if self serve and only one attendant poses a safety issue, don't have to pump gas.

A motion was made and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 PM

Minutes submitted by Lorraine McLaughlin