

Hull Commission on Disability

October, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, October 8th, 2009

Location: Hull Town Hall

Time: 5:30

Attendees: Ken MacDonald, Bruce Wood, Peter Lombardo, Jim Mauer, Joan Humphreys

Discussion Items:

Active Projects:

*Access Complaint-Hull resident Kathy Morgan addressed the Commission regarding two access issues. The first deals with the entrance to the recently renovated Jacobs School. Ms. Morgan has a mobility impairment and volunteers in the senior reading program at the school. She and other seniors have found accessing the school via lift very difficult and confusing. There is no signage directing visitors to the lift, and once at the lift, it is difficult to operate. Question about call button present? Ms. Morgan gave up and used the stairs-taking her 30 minutes to enter the school. Her second complaint is the lack of handrails on the “ramped” entrance at the memorial school. Bruce questioned whether the existing slope constitutes a ramp per regulations and will defer to the Building Commissioner. Bruce suggested both her complaints be submitted in writing and Ken suggested they be emailed to him. Ken will forward to all appropriate town officials. Ken will also confirm if there is an exterior call button.

*Daddy’s Dry Dock Renovation-Jim believes work has begun. Peter was not present to discuss renovation plans. Ken will email him to see if a permit has been issued.

*Destination Community Development/Farmers Market- Ken emailed Jennifer Berardi Constable and formally ask that she go to the HRA Board to request accessibility improvements-creating space between telephone poles. Ken also recommended they locate a more accessible location in 2010 for the Farmers Market. No response. He will try again.

*Kenberma Foodmart Renovation-Ken will email Peter and Joe Stigliani at Hull DPW – to see if they can locate a compliant storm grate.

*Riddles Expansion Plans- Walls and floor going up. Peter and Commission will monitor progress.

*Olivina’s Salon- Still no hand rail and Joan still wants to pursue. She sent a letter to Frank Plotner. Ken will email Peter and Bartley Kelley for resolution.

*Subsidized Accessible Hull Housing- Bruce has scheduled a meeting on October 21st at the HHA office. A representative from the state Department of Housing & Community Development will be present, along with Town Manager Phil Lemnios. Though we anticipate they will say there are no funds available to create accessible housing, the Commission recommends they: 1) acknowledge the need 2) come up with long term plan for when funds become available, and 3) complete a feasibility study. Bruce and Joan plan on attending and will report at November meeting.

*Steamboat Wharf Marina Construction- Ken will email Peter about the HP parking spaces. The Commission will monitor.

*A Street Beach Ramp-The bids were due on 10/7 and construction must be completed by 12/15. Ken will email Bob Fultz for status.

*ADA Transition Plan for Hull- Hard Copies and a memo were distributed to all department heads. Ken will email Bob Fultz stating the Commission looks forward to working with the consultants on a review-if possible.

*Senior Center Renovations- Joan feels Hull seniors don't want to see the existing center renovated. Ken questioned if this was a formal opinion of the Hull Council on Aging. Bob Fultz emailed Ken and suggested there needs to be more advocacy in support of the project from the disability community. An email reply will be sent offering whatever support the Commission can offer.

*Jacobs Elementary School- Ken emailed David Twombly regarding signage but hasn't received a response.

*Carousel Renovations-No update.

Inactive Projects:

*The Performing Arts Center

New Business:

*Atlantic Avenue Roadwork

*Endless Summer Transportation-Per Ken, trolleys were not accessible. He will email Judith Van Hamm and the Hull Chamber of Commerce asking that they explore accessible vehicles for 2010 and consider accessibility when planning Chamber events.

Next Meeting is on November 12th, at 5:30 at the Town Hall
Submitted by Ken MacDonald