



HUDSON COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

Town Hall
Hudson, Massachusetts 01749

Minutes of Meeting – February 11, 2020

The Hudson Commission on Disabilities met at the Town Hall, 78 Main Street, Hudson, Massachusetts.

At 10:10AM, Andrea Erikson, Chair called the meeting to order.

Present: Andrea Erickson, Chair Frank Noyes, Vice Chair, Robert Butts, Ronald Sorgman, Kristina Johnson Assistant Director and Jack Hunter, Director.

Guests: Tom Moses, Town Administrator

Welcome and Introductions

Andrea welcomed everyone to the meeting, and before turning over the meeting to the guest speaker, Tom Moses, she noted that 2020 is the 30th anniversary of the passage of the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act. She indicated that there will be many local events to celebrate the passage of this important piece of legislation

Guest Speaker

Mr. Moses provided an overview of his professional credentials and his role as Town Administrator. He provided an overview of the Town's organizational structure and how each Department fits within the structure. And finally, he discussed the progress of the Eversource Transmission Line, and noted that the preferred alternatives include a connection to the Mass Central Rail Trail, which is an ADA-accessible share use path, similar to the Assabet River Rail Trail. Members of the Board asked Mr. Moses many questions relative to the status and permitting of this project.

Riverwalk/Rotary Projects

Ms. Johnson presented a status update on the Rotary project, and she noted that the construction bid opening is February 19th at the Department of Public Works. After a low bidder is established and a contract awarded, a Notice to Proceed will be issued, anticipated for early spring. Ms. Johnson also discussed how the warm, snowless winter weather has allowed Eversource to relocate and upgrade their gas line infrastructure ahead of the construction.

Future Invitees

The group discussed who they would like to invite to the next Commission meeting, and all agreed to extend an invitation Pam Helineck, Conservation Agent/Environmental Planner to give a presentation on the Riverwalk project and other important conservation efforts in the Town. Ms. Johnson stated that she would reach out to confirm Mr. Moses attendance.



HUDSON COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

Town Hall

Hudson, Massachusetts 01749

2020 Meeting Schedule

The Board discussed having a standard meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of every month scheduled and entered in the Town online calendar. Andrea moved to officially schedule the Commission on Disabilities meeting for the 2nd Wednesday every month. Seconded by Frank Noyes. 4-0-0. Unanimous

Other Business

Mr. Hunter reminded the Board that he is the ADA Compliance Officer and is required by law to address all ADA-related issues and grievances brought to his attention. He noted that the Town does have an ADA grievance policy to deal with such issues. Mr. Hunter discussed a complaint received from a client of local medical office regarding the presence of an emotional support canine. He noted that if no satisfactory resolution is reached between the two parties, it is possible for the Commission to become involved per the ADA Grievance Policy.

Mr. Noyes discussed the idea of having the Commission on Disabilities revive a puppet show to teach children and families about living with disabilities. He mentioned that this type of puppet show production was put on in the past, and expressed his enthusiasm for the event.

Minutes

Andrea Erickson moved to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Ronald Sorgman 4-0-0. Unanimous

Adjournment

Andrea Erickson seconded by Frank Noyes moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 AM. 4-0-0. Unanimous.

Cc: Town Clerk