

Town of Hudson Commission on Disabilities

78 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749 Tel: (978) 562-2948

Email: phelinek@townofhudson.org

Meeting Minutes February 14, 2023

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Hudson Commission on Disabilities was conducted via remote participation.

Meeting began at 9:33 AM without a quorum, Quorum established 10:09 AM Roll Call: Sheryl Marrazzo, Ron Sorgman (arrived 9:55AM), George Luoto (arrived 10:09AM)

Staff: Pam Helinek

Hudson Public Library Accessibility Problems

Present: Aileen Sanchez-Himes, Library Director; Lisa Aucoin, Asst Library Director Aileen Sanchez-Himes reported that she had met with both Ron Sorgman and Andrea Erickson. Andrea found that if she accessed the library from Main Street, she could use the side entrance, and that once inside, there was access to a family restroom and elevator. Ron analyzed potential access of the different entrances and library levels, taking into consideration the structural issues that the library is experiencing. It appears that the best solution for the short term would be to increase the availability of handicap parking on Main Street, to allow for better usage of the side entrance.

Aileen Sanchez-Himes said that an additional three or four spots would be ideal, but that at a minimum the two handicap parking spots at the bottom of the sloped parking lot behind the library should be traded for two new spots on Main Street. The Commission agreed that conversion of the current "15 minute" spot to a handicap spot would be ideal, and another spot could be directly across the street by the crossing signal. Aileen Sanchez-Himes said for additional safety, the crossing sign should be more visible with flashing lights like the one at Cox Street.

Pam Helinek will arrange for the Commission to be on the agenda of the next Internal Traffic Commission meeting to make these requests.

Prospective Member Interview:

Present: Justin Graseffa

The Commission spoke to Justin Graseffa about his interest in becoming a Commissioner.

ADA Transition Plan Implementation

Sheryl Marrazzo said that she was hoping to visit some of the Recreation sites next weekend and plans to have another meeting with the Recreation Director.



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Community Concerns

Sheryl Marrazzo reported that the host station blocking wheelchair access at the Rail Trail Flatbread restaurant has been moved.

Open Space and Recreation Plan

Pam Helinek reported that the Town is forming a Steering Committee to work on the Open Space and Recreation Plan update. Sherly Marrazzo, George Luoto and Ron Sorgman all expressed interest in being on the Steering Committee.

Minutes – The Commission approved the minutes from January 19, 2023, vote 4-0-0

New Member Appointment – The Commission agreed that Justin Grasefa would be a good addition to the board, vote 4-0-0. Pam Helinek will request that the Select Board appoint him at their next meeting.

Adjournment –The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM.