



# Town of Hudson

## Commission on Disabilities

78 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749  
Tel: (978)562-2989 Fax: (978)568-9641  
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### **Minutes of Meeting – April 19, 2022**

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Pursuant to the Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021 Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, this meeting of the Hudson Commission on Disabilities was conducted via remote participation.

At 9:30 AM, Andrea Erickson, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Commission Members Participating: Andrea Erickson, Chair  
Frank Noyes, Vice Chair  
George Luoto  
Sheryl Marrazzo

Commission Members Absent: Ron Sorgman

Staff Members Participating: Amanda Molina Dumas, Assistant Planner

#### **Welcome from the Chair**

Ms. Andrea Erickson welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Commission noted that the last meeting scheduled on April 5, 2022 was canceled due to a lack of quorum.

#### **Request for Recommendations regarding Accessible Spaces on Main Street and within 6-8 South Street Parking Lot**

On March 29, 2022, the Commission on Disabilities received a request from Select Board member Shawn Sadowski regarding the relocation of the accessible parking space located in the parking lot at 6-8 South Street. Currently, the accessible space is located in the northeastern corner of the lot when viewing the area from South Street.

At the Commission on Disability meeting held remotely on April 19, 2022, Mr. Sadowski was present and discussed the request with the Commission. Mr. Sadowski stated that the request stems from his own experience with family members who have had difficulty utilizing accessible parking spaces in the Downtown area. He also commented that the existing alley way from the parking lot to Main Street is too steep of an incline to be easily traversed by individuals in wheelchairs or motorized chairs. Mr. Sadowski proposed relocating the accessible space to the southwest portion of the lot, closer to the road (see image at left). The proposed location currently has two parking spaces with a landscaped buffer, which would be removed to make more room for at least one van accessible parking space and the required hatched access aisle.

The Commission discussed the request, with a few members noting that they often find delivery trucks and other large equipment blocking access to the accessible space in its current location. The Commission discussed the pitch of the walkway in comparison to the distance added by relocating the space, noting that for the mobility impaired, distance can be as much a barrier was the pitch of the walkway. The Commission felt the proposed location would be acceptable, as users can access Main Street via South Street and Washington Street, as well as the



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businesses on South Street. The Commission also noted that an additional accessible space on Main Street would be highly desirable and should be considered by the Town.

**The Commission on Disabilities motioned to and seconded to recommend to the ITC that the accessible space located in the northwestern corner of the 6-8 South Street parking lot be relocated to the southwestern corner of the lot, between the existing landscaped buffer (to be removed) and dumpster enclosure. 4-0-0.**

The Commission on Disabilities also discussed the accessible spaces along Main Street, specifically the space closest to the rotary in front of Rail Trail Flatbread Company, and the newer accessible space in front of Café 641. It appears that the accessible space in front of the Rail Trail was shifted east along Main Street, and is now located in front of Café 641. The Commission appreciates the location of the space in front of Café 641 as it is much easier to navigate in and out of. The Commission will work to identify possible locations for potential accessible parking, and will provide recommendations to the ITC in the future.

#### **Hudson Bike and Pedestrian Committee update**

Mr. Noyes provided an update on the committee, which is working to develop a survey to ask residents where they have found issues in town related to biking, sidewalks, etc. The committee is also having discussions about problem spots that they have identified in Town.

#### **Approval of 5/11/2021 and 3/15/2022 meeting minutes**

Andrea Erickson seconded by Frank Noyes moved to approve the meeting minutes of May 11, 2021. 2-0-0. (Only Andrea and Frank were present for that hearing).

Andrea Erickson seconded by Frank Noyes moved to approve the meeting minutes of March 15, 2022. 4-0-0. Unanimous.

#### **Other Business**

Ms. Erickson shared a story regarding her recent trip to Europe, noting that some airlines provided disability services in flight, such as Delta Airlines, while others did not. She found the train system to be fully accessible and safe.

#### **Adjournment**

Andrea Erickson seconded by George Luoto moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 AM. 3-0-0 (Sheryl Marrazzo left meeting at 10:30 AM).

Cc: Town Clerk