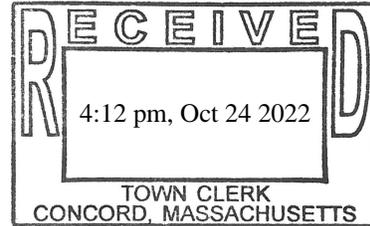


September 8, 2022
Concord Commission on Disabilities
MINUTES



Present: Jean Goldsberry, chair
Members: Erin Stevens, Meryl Schwartz, Janet Beyer, Jennifer Brooke, Lloyd Price (Lloyd, did you phone in for a shot time?)
Absent: Karen Young
Guests: Robert Andrews, Marcia Rasmussen, Linda Escobedo
Concord Public Information Officer Kellie Herbert

Meeting called to order 5:10
Kellie Herbert came to discuss reaching out to people with disabilities and making the Commission more widely known.

Jennifer: How do we and you reach people who have difficulty knowing about the Commission? How do we get information out?
Bob Andrews: Also, to be considered, it is not just getting information out, but also getting information from people in Concord about their needs.

Erin: In terms of getting information, I frequently turn to the Council on Aging

Meryl: What is the website called for the town?

Erin: It is called News and Notices: You have to sign up for it and get permission from the Town to send to you. It has all the notices for the Town.

Meryl: It would be nice for the Council on Aging to have in their newsletter what is happening around Concord not just at the Council.

Erin: I would be more than happy to work with COA for getting out information
We work with the Journal and will work with the new newspaper, the Concord Bridge.
Jennifer: Can we teach people on the website how to find information about the time they need.
Jennifer: I love the idea of the book mark
Jean: How about a code on the website that takes you to that section
Erin: It is on the first page, it is easy but not intuitive.
Jean: Yes News and Notices is great.
Meryl: For big events I like posters at key locations. Anyplace you can put up a poster, like libraries, the entrance to the rail trail would be good.

Junction Park. Marcia Rasmussen, Concord Director of Planning and Land Management:
Marcia put together a power point presentation to show present status and options. Marcia said that it is essential that the Town find a way to get people to slow down while going through the Concord Park area.
Among the suggestions are signs along the park, planters or archways along the path, paint along the park that perhaps local artists could do.

Meryl was enthusiastic about the idea of a painted pathway
Jean liked the idea that there is a multi-solution to the problem: planters, paintings, signs.

Marcia: I will probably be posting updates on the BFRT website and you can comment on that site.

Members expressed interest in all the solutions to the speeding problem through Junction Park. And questioned if any talented person in Concord could do the planters, trellises or paintings.

Marcia suggested that the Town could do a new pattern each year and celebrate what is going on in West Concord.

Minutes from last meeting not approved until October. Janet will make corrections at that time.

October is Disability awareness month. Jean will be at the Selectmen meeting mostly talking about Minute Man Arc but also about the commission. She will talk about the many employers who hire people with disabilities.

Jennifer: Minute Man Arc is so successful. As the Commission on Disability that is a subject we have not broached.

Jean agreed to put this on the agenda for October. She added that employers in Concord are open to hiring people with disabilities.

Jennifer: I wonder if there is a time when the employers need support from the Town for these employees, with parking and accessibility, for instance.

Jean: There are going to be five parking spaces in the Emerson Lot. This is more than before.

Jennifer: That is the required number. The Town is meeting the law.

Kellie: Library spots: Working with library director. We were able to secure additional slots in that lot. And that is because of the advocacy of the Commission.

Kellie: I am trying to find the last time we did a study for the Town of accessibility. She found a plan dated 2006. She has suggested doing an update to that plan.

This would be done with a grant from the Mass. Council on Disabilities. We were looking at about \$100,000 for assessment and plan of action. An outside company would do this.

The Town has a plan for public rights of way, but we need to look at all our public facilities.

Next meeting Oct. 13.

Jean announced: Sept. 17, at Alcott, March run by Minute Man Arc. Two Red Sox mascots, food and fun.