

**Concord Commission on Disabilities Meeting**  
**November 9, 2017**  
**Minutes**

Attending: Jean Goldsberry, Chair, Marybeth Barker, Jennifer Brooke, Llyod Price, Tom McKean, Nora McShane, Meryl Schwartz, Jerry Wedge, Guest.

Meeting called to order at 5:10 PM. It was announced that because the agenda was not posted in the time deadline for submission, we would only be able to deliberate, but not vote on any issue.

Jerry Wedge from the Emerson Umbrella first gave his presentation on the new plans for the renovations and expansion of the “Umbrella Community Arts Center,” whose mission is “to enrich lives and make arts more accessible.” The plans include a major change to the entrance to the building, putting it on the ground level, and making the front, as well as other entrances all accessible. The 350 seat auditorium will have accessible seating will have accessible seating in the rear as well a location near the front. They have already received approvals by the zoning board, have acquired funding, and will be undergoing construction in 2018.

Jennifer Brooke will be contacting a network of parents with the hope that there may be someone interested in joining the Commission.

There has been a letter of support of Extension of 51 Walden’s plans sent to the AAB.

Kate Hodges could not attend our meeting tonight, but has been invited to attend our next meeting, to be held on December 7 at the newly acquired 55 Church Street, Building.

Marybeth Barker and Jennifer Brooke volunteered to do a site visit to the CCHS Fields and will coordinate timing.

Jean plans to attend tonight's "Mapping the Road to Town Meeting" and will report back to the group. She announced a Public Hearing on Parking in Concord, scheduled for Nov. 15, at 7:00 PM.

Issues for discussion at our next meeting: 1. Clarifying our mission: are we trying to achieve compliance with ADA standards, or are we trying to create a welcoming community? Can we define the difference between advocacy and enforcement?

2. What is the COD's relationship with the schools ?

3. Need to develop a strategy for handicapped parking fees: Talk with Joe O'Connor and Chris Whelan to decide how is should be handled.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Minutes submitted by Meryl Schwartz