

COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY
Minutes for 10/13/2016

Attending: Jean Goldsberry (Chair), David Holdorf, Lloyd Price, Meryl Schwartz, Marybeth Barker, Jennifer Brooke, Tom McKean (Select Board liaison), Kate Hodges (Assistant Town Manager), Pat Nelson (Concord Childrens Center), Bonny Wilbur (Community Services Coordinator)

Meeting called to order at 5:15.

Minutes of 8/23/2016 and 9/6/2016 approved.

Nora McShane was approved by the Select Board as a Member of this Committee, but was unable to attend this meeting.

Old Business

Jennifer noted she heard from John Straggas who had received a letter from the AAB confirming that the dive pool at the Beede Center must have a lift access. The lift would cost about \$8000, but according to Kate Hodges, there are no current budget provisions, and no funds currently available for this capital improvement. A lengthy discussion ensued about budget priorities in the face of other competing improvements. Issue basically unresolved. It is the hope of this committee that this issue can be put to rest as soon as possible, so that the entire facility is accessible. A ramped entrance to the kiddie pool has not yet been addressed by the Beede staff.

Marybeth reported that she continues to get the runaround from Bank of America regarding push plate activators for the outside doors to the vestibule and for the vestibule doors to the lobby. At the moment, the outdoor push plate does work, but the problem is not solved. Marybeth will write a letter to the AAB requesting their involvement. Marybeth also noted that no signage for operating procedures is posted.

John Minty has reported to Jennifer that he is pressing Gaining Ground for resolution of the access violations for the bathroom in the new barn.

Jean sent a letter of support, as voted on by this Committee, to the West Concord Union Church for their application for CPC funding assistance for accessibility improvements.

The Committee voted to send a letter of support to the CPC for the Concord Integrated Preschool playground.

New Business

The Committee voted to send a letter of support to the CPC for the Playscape at Ripley.

Responding to complaints about delivery trucks blocking the handicapped parking spaces at Nashoba Bakery, Jean will contact the Manager to request that delivery drivers not block those spaces.

The issue of this Committee becoming a Commission, thus opening up sources of funding for accessibility improvements, was again discussed. This change would require a Town Meeting vote, so it is necessary to begin preparing for that now if it becomes necessary or desirable. Note that the Towns of Acton, Lincoln, and Lexington do have Commissions. In order to prepare a case of making this change, Jean felt it would be good to meet with Jeff at AAB, and she will try to schedule a meeting with him and a quorum of this Committee, tentatively Oct. 28 at 1 or Nov. 2 at 9.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35.

Notes recorded by David Holdorf, Clerk.