

Disability Commission Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2023
(Zoom Meeting)

Meeting called to order by Chairwoman Kim Hopewell at 6:22PM.

Members Present:

Kim Hopewell, Marcia Cairns, Pat Crowley, Ron Menard

Members Absent:

Lisa Thompson

Old Business:

- Marcia made a motion to approve the February 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes, seconded by Ron. Unanimously approved.
- Ron made a motion to approve the February 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes, seconded by Marcia. Unanimously approved.
- The Commission's proposed Bylaws, that were partially rewritten by the Bylaws Committee at the February 9, 2023 meeting, were reviewed. Kim pointed out some of the changes from the original proposed bylaws, including the added language to Items #3 and #6 of Article II (Powers & Duties), as well as the changes in the order of Items in Article II. Other minor changes and omissions in Articles III and IV were also mentioned. In Article V, item #3 included a typo that unintentionally omitted the word "minutes". Thus Item #3 properly reads: "The Commission shall review and approve meeting minutes at the next meeting." Kim will make the correction; Pat saw no need to alert the Bylaws Committee about this correction.
- Ron made a motion to accept the newly proposed Bylaws just reviewed, seconded by Marcia. Unanimously approved.

New Business:

- A Public Hearing is the next step in the process of finalizing the Commission's proposed bylaws. Members discussed and agreed to hold the hearing on Monday, March 27, 2023 at 6:00PM in the Town Hall. Kim will check to see if a hybrid meeting can be arranged; if not, it will be an in-person meeting.

- After the Public Hearing, and assuming no substantive changes are made at the Hearing to the proposed set of Bylaws just voted on, the Selectboard would need to accept and then approve the Bylaws' inclusion as a warrant at the May Town Meeting for acceptance by the town's residents. Kim has arranged for a warrant place holder, should we encounter any delays.
- Kim commenced a discussion on the Senior Center Bathrooms. At Jen's urging, she and Ron went to the Senior Center to speak with Lisa about the bathrooms' noncompliant issues. We learned that the opening pressure on the bathroom doors was changed from 9 pounds to the 5 pounds recommended by the Transition Plan. When the discussion turned to coathook and toilet paper holder placements, Pat indicated we are jumping the gun, since the Transition Plan is not yet finalized and the Town's implementation plan needs to be developed, including the Commission's actual role in the implementation plan.
- Kim briefly mentioned the Accessible Trails Dialogue that has already taken place, but which can be viewed at the link provided in the flyer Kim sent us. She also mentioned that Jen will be forwarding to Kim any upcoming seminars that might be of interest to us.
- Ron Menard was nominated to be the Commission's new secretary and has agreed to accept the new position.
- Ron made a motion to adjourn at 7:20PM, seconded by Marcia. Unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ron Menard, Vice-Chairman and Secretary