

Commission on Disabilities (COD)

Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2020

10:30 am

Virtual Meeting due to pandemic

link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84371410520?pwd=WDZiOWwyeGpBc21iS3dwODYvY1dWQT09>

Present:

Full Members: Ann Corcoran (Chair), Joan Burrows, Lisa Franklin, Leslie Johnson, Franny Osman

Associate Members: Peshia Kokis, Jim Snyder-Grant

Others: Director of Governmental Affairs Austin Cyganiewicz

1. Opening

Chair Corcoran opened the meeting at 10:30 am.

2. **Regular Business**

A. Shared Concerns (timely issues not on the agenda, formerly “Citizens Concerns”) – none

B. Approval of Meeting Minutes – none

C. Announcements – none.

D. Access Report – none.

E. Selectmen Liaison Report – none.

F. Report from Austin Cyganiewicz, Director of Governmental Affairs –

3. **New Business**

A. Karen Martin from the Dog Park Committee visited. She described the proposed site for the dog park, next to the future 31-unit Housing Authority housing at Main St. and Route 2. Ms. Martin suggests we see the website of the Dog Park Committee and support them as we can.

B. Ms. Franklin reached out to the Beacon newspaper (Patricia Mahoney) to ask them to cover the thirtieth anniversary of the ADA. Ms. Mahoney will reach out to her manager. Ms. Franklin and Ms. Burrows submitted a first article and hope to seek four or five contributions from past members/liaisons, Wayne, Nancy and Chuck. Ms. Franklin moved that the COD work with the Beacon newspaper to do a series of articles to commemorate the July anniversary. Ms. Burrows seconded the motion. The COD voted 5-0 in favor of the motion. The motion passed. Ms.

Corcoran will give slides to Acton TV for this celebration as well, in conjunction with Joan Burrows.

- C. There was a discussion about the COD presence on Town website, with a desire to have more up to date communications that would encourage visitors to come to the website and to know they can apply to join or just attend meetings and participate. Suggestion to have members' names and expected term expiration dates.
- D. Ms. Burrows and Mr. Snyder-Grant are working with Bettina Abe of Natural Resources regarding COD's contribution of funds to the Acton Arboretum for an accessible element in honor of people with disabilities (decided at a previous meeting). There was also a discussion of the Commission's contributions toward Jones Field Playground and Open Door Theater.
- E. Discussion of roles and creating a slate of officers. Ms. Franklin and Mr. Snyder-Grant will create a slate of officers to be voted on at the June 2020 meeting.

1. Adjournment

At approximately 12:00 noon, it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.