

Commission on Disabilities

Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2021

10:00 AM

* VIRTUAL MEETING *

Present: Franny Osman (Chair), Lisa Franklin (Vice-Chair), Leslie Johnson, Joan Burrows, Jim Snyder-Grant (BOS Liaison)

Ms. Osman called the meeting to order at 10:20 AM via a virtual meeting with no members in physical attendance and broadcasted via Zoom.

1. Regular Business

a. Citizen Concerns

No citizen concerns at this time.

b. Updates/Announcements from Chair

No updates from the Chair at this time.

2. New Business

a. Discussion of 67 Powdermill Rd. Development Application for Site Plan Special Permit

Jim Snyder-Grant, BOS liaison to the Commission, presented initial details of the proposed application for a mixed-use office and housing building located at 67 Powdermill Rd. This proposed development is adjacent to the current Human Services and Senior Center, located at 30 Sudbury Road. Members asked follow-up questions, noting objections to the proposed site by community and Senior Center staff members.

Building Commissioner Frank Ramsbottom attended the meeting and spoke to the accessibility requirements for the proposed development. Mr. Ramsbottom noted he spoke with the Architectural Access Board about this project, which affirmed the Commission's thoughts that the ground floor was the only floor required to have accessible entry/exit due to the minimum number of units in the proposed building. The proposed office floor does not have to be accessible if it will be a private office or if located on the ground floor.

Mr. Snyder-Grant asked if common facilities, such as a laundry room, have to be accessible. Mr. Ramsbottom confirmed they must be accessible, however, the hallway leading to it does not.

Ms. Franklin urged the Board of Selectmen to seek additional accessible features in their negotiations with the developer, in the interest of a mutually beneficial relationship between all stakeholders. Members suggested asking the developer if they would be interested in adding an additional accessible apartment.

The Commission then spoke about the proposed driveway access to this development. There is currently a right of way through the 30 Sudbury lot. The Planning Department looked into potential alternative access points, however, due to a variety of issues, there is no feasible alternative access point to this location.

Ms. Franklin moved to adjourn. Ms. Burrows seconded. Ms. Osman called the roll: Ms. Franklin (aye), Ms. Johnson (aye), Ms. Burrows (aye), Ms. Osman (aye). The meeting was adjourned at 11:19 AM.