

**Minutes
Town of Acton
Commission on Disabilities (COD)
October 1, 2015
3 pm Town Hall, Room 126
Special Meeting**

Members Present: Madeleine Harvey, Cindy Patton, Lisa Franklin, Danny Factor

Guests: Joan Burrows, Applicants: Ken Roberts and Kristen Alexander

Call to order : 3:05 pm

33 Nagog Park variance extension request :

Danny introduced the issue. Ken listed what has been done. The engineering and recreation departments want to stay at 33 Nagog Park. Ken spoke to Tom Hopkins from the Architectural Access Board (AAB) about extending the variance for a year or more. Having the two departments stay doesn't trigger access regulations (such as the front entry way). Kristen said that there isn't room for these two departments to come in to any town owned property now. Lisa wanted know if this might be permanent. The review meeting with the AAB is on Monday, October 5. Danny gave out our original notes on the building. Kristen said that we don't want to move the two departments into a negative situation. Frank said that the AAB might require them to do something about the bathrooms because of the length of the stay. Lisa wanted to know if the departments were moved out why wasn't there room to take them back. Cindy said that the town moved all of the departments into an inaccessible building causing residents with mobility challenges to require someone to help them enter the building. Joan said that all town offices should be in an accessible place. Mady agreed with Cindy, Lisa and Joan that if we are talking about an extension beyond one year she would not be supportive. Danny said that a one year extension is generous. Kristen told us that the town has a lease for one year. Danny said there should be work done before a new lease is signed and that the town should be held to a pretty strict standard. A motion was made by Danny that Acton COD would send comments to the AAB stating that the current time variance not be extended for more than one year. Factors in the decision were concerns about the lack of access to one of the bathrooms, and the 11% grade which makes the entrance to the building inaccessible and the COD felt that such an inaccessible building should not house public town offices permanently. Lisa 2nd, Unanimous.

Adjourn: 4:30 pm

Docushare:

Allegro: Request for a Time Extension to an Existing Approved MAAB Variance
Variance Application to the AAB from Allegro

Respectfully submitted, Cindy Patton (secretary)