



City of New Bedford Commission for Citizens with Disabilities

Minutes Commission for Citizens with Disabilities October 18, 2018

Members Present

Jaunna Adesso
Susan Bewsher
Linda Carreiro
Pam Cole
Dennis DeMarinis

Others in Attendance

Marci Pina-Christian, HRC
BG Shanklin, Architect
Cynthia Wallquist, Exec. Director

Members Excused

Melissa Branco
Herb "Sonny" Edelston
Marsha Fernandes

Dennis DeMarinis, Chair, called the meeting to order @ 6:39 PM. He introduced the newest member of the Commission, Susan Bewsher.

Approval of Minutes

Josh Amaral moved to accept the June 19, 2018 meeting minutes; seconded by Rev. Pam Cole. The motion carried.

Old Business

- **Polling Places**

Issues that arose during the Primary were discussed. Architect BG Shanklin will update his draft summary within a week to ensure that all the information can be forwarded to the Elections Commission in advance of the General Election.

- **SRTA Garage Elevator**

The Commission received a copy of a letter dated September 17, 2018 sent by the State to SERTA's attorneys that requested proof that the garage elevator is working and has been inspected by the Board of Elevator Regulations.

Chairperson's Report

Dennis DeMarinis deferred to Architect Shanklin for project updates in lieu of a formal report.

Executive Director's Report

Cynthia Wallquist reported that:

- the Special Needs exercise classes began over the summer at Hazelwood and will continue there until mid-November when Buttonwood re-opens from repairs
- the Clear Path snow removal program enrollment period closes October 25. To date, more 39 applications have been received for the 30 available slots.

Linda Carreiro moved to accept the Executive Director's report; seconded by Josh Amaral. Motion carried.

Architect's Report

Architect Shanklin reported:

- Transition Plan Update

The Transition Plan is still a work in progress. He has a meeting with Al Oliveira re: the schools on October 19th and has yet to hear back from the Fire Department as to when he can visit those buildings (all others have been inventoried).

- Variances/Misc. Reviews

He visited/reviewed the following sites and reported the outcomes:

- 22 Centre Street
 - Nativity Prep.
 - Immaculate Conception Church
 - St. Francis Church
 - 95 West Rodney French Blvd.
- He submitted a grant to MOD for funds (\$32,000) to make minor ADA improvements to Hazelwood; the grant is pending.

Pam Cole moved to accept the Architect's report; seconded by Josh Amaral. Motion carried.

New Business

Josh Amaral moved to reaffirm and ratify actions taken by the Executive Committee in August to:

- Enter into a contract with Larry Bigos to conduct weekly exercise classes for special needs adults.
- Enter into a contract with Architect Blair G. Shanklin
- Issue a call for applications for the Clear Path Program

Susan Bewsher seconded; Motion carried.

Other Business

Marci Pina-Christian, Exec. Director of the City's Human Relations Commission, reported on her meeting with the Regional Director of the Commission for the Blind, Julie Boren. She will follow up with Ms. Boren to ensure that the issues are brought to the Commission attention in writing by the next meeting.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Susan Bewsher and seconded by Josh Amaral. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Announcements

- Next scheduled meeting: November 15, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jaunna Adesso".

Jaunna Adesso
Clerk