



City of New Bedford Commission for Citizens with Disabilities

**Minutes
Commission for Citizens with Disabilities
May 15, 2018**

Members Present

Josh Amaral
Jaunna Adesso
Martha Bouchard
Melissa Branco
Sonny Eddleston
Marsha Fernandes

Others in Attendance

Kristine Arsenault, Mayor's Office
BG Shanklin, Architect
Cynthia Wallquist, Exec. Dir.

Members Excused

Linda Carreiro
Dennis Demarinis, Jr.

Members Absent

Pam Cole

Martha Bouchard, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order @ 6:44 PM.

Approval of Minutes

Joshua Amaral moved to accept the April meeting minutes; seconded by Jaunna Adesso. Motion carried.

Old Business

- **Polling Place Accessibility**
As part of the visits Mr. BG Shanklin is conducting to prepare the Transition Plan, he visited 27 polling places. Roughly half of the polling places meet code, while the other half are problematic. Mr. Shanklin recommends 8 polling places be replaced altogether, as that would be more feasible than making repairs. As the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities has not received a response from the Election Commission, as was anticipated before May 8th, Mr. Amaral asked the Chair to send another letter to the Election Commissioners requesting an update on progress.
- Copies of correspondence from the MA AAB relative to the SRTA Garage were distributed.

Chairperson's Report

In the Chair's absence, Vice Chair Martha Bouchard asked that current officers let the Chair know if his/her wishes to remain as an officers and that anyone who is interested in being considered notify him as well no later than May 31, 2018.

Executive Director's Report

Cynthia Wallquist reported that there should be an additional \$10,000 in the FY19 budget due to the increase in handicapped parking fines revenues. The Commission will be asked to vote on program priorities at the June meeting. Jaunna Adesso moved to accept the report; Melissa Branco seconded. Motion carried.

Architect's Report

Mr. Shanklin reported that variances submitted by 22 Centre Street and also the Greasy Luck Brewery were approved by the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board.

Mr. Shanklin provided an update on his site visits related to the Transition Plan. To date, he has visited eight New Bedford Public Schools and has about a dozen more that still need to be completed. He stated he anticipates difficulty in providing cost estimates for some schools, as they may be granted variances for certain accommodations. He added that compliance related renovations at some of the district's older schools would likely be more expensive than simply building new schools.

New Business

- Correspondence drafted by Dennis DeMarinis was distributed. DPFFM Commissioner Ken Blanchard requested a letter of support (draft attached) from the Commission to the Council relative to including the cost of an additional City Hall elevator to the City Council before their final vote on the City's CIP (Capital Improvement Program).
- Martha Bouchard reported on Phil Zukas' Working Group "Bristol PA Partners".

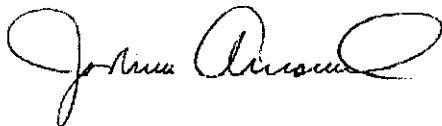
Announcements

- The next meeting (Annual) is scheduled for June 19, 2018.

Adjourn

Jaunna Adesso moved to adjourn the meeting @7:30; Herb "Sonny" Eddleston seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary