



Roxann Wedegartner
Mayor

City of
GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ACCESS

City Hall • 14 Court Square • Greenfield, MA 01301
Phone 413-772-1548 • www.greenfield-ma.gov

Members:

Lynne Kelley – Chair
Douglas Mayo
L'aura Jordan
Virginia DeSorgher
Robert Williford

Greenfield Commission on Disability Access (CDA)

Thursday, June 9, 2022, at 1:00 pm

Via WebEx

Members present:

Lynne Kelley, Chair
Bob Williford
Virginia “Ginny” DeSorgher
Douglas Mayo

Members absent:

L'aura Jordan

Also present:

Lindsay Rowe, ADA Coordinator
Pamela McBride, Greenfield Public Library

LK called the meeting to order at 1:03PM

Minutes

Check to see if Dawn/Member of Public did attend. Fix typos - Paragraph that starts with “Covid 19 information” should add compliant “Also DOJ should... because their vaccine site was not ADA compliant” - Transition Plan Update should be “approved” not “improved”. “As they then would have to maintain them” - Residents don't maintain the sidewalks, but do shovel. Change to

“shovel them.” Motion to table the minutes until the next meeting. Bob, Second. Vote - Lynne, Doug, Bob in favor.

Mass MATCH Roadshow

Thank everyone for doing it. And Bob and Mary for the talking book library. Lovely letter from Hope McCary thanking us for the show and the effectiveness of doing things collaboratively. Really good success and people who went seemed to enjoy themselves. Great opportunity to try new things and learn about things that she never knew existed.

Lynne noted that the website massmatch.org was not user friendly. They are in the process of redoing the website to increase usability. Should be ready by late Autumn. UCP now has an arrangement with the senior center to do a monthly pick-up so items can be dropped off there.

The library will now be the Certifying Authority for the Perkins Library. Bob wondered if the CDA could be a Certifying Authority. Wondering if the CDA wants to become one. Are members interested in having Bob ask Perkins? Lynne, yes, Doug, yes, Ginny, yes. Bob, yes. The application is pretty straightforward, so it shouldn't be hard to review.

Treasurer's Report

Handicap Parking now \$4,421.05 an increase of \$1,200.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report - Lynne/Doug - Lynne, yes, Doug, yes, Ginny, yes. Bob, yes

Historical Commission

Bob wrote a letter to John Passiglia asking about if the door to H&R could have a door opener. The door is the same as from the 1880s. Lynne had contact with the owners. They do have another

door that Lynne could access, but it requires that you have to get someone to open the door. Doug is a member of the Historic Committee and can talk to John.

Long Haul COVID

Long history of people who have hidden disabilities. Lynne read a Washington Post article on COVID. There is some discussion of resources becoming scared due to people impacted by Long Term COVID. While there is concern, it's important to remain allied and fight for resources for all people. Bob attended Public Health meeting. COVID numbers between April and May increased dramatically. The hospitalizations aren't as bad, but the Long Haul COVID numbers have increased and they're recognizing this as an issue. GCTV is now archiving all City WebEx meetings, so the BOH meeting may be online. Another thing is that a lot of people with Long Haul COVID may not consider themselves disabled and therefore don't know how to access resources. Doug suggests that we put something on the website so that we can be a source of information. Lynne would like to wait until next month to get some feedback. Library can also post this information.

Transition plan update

LK looking into transition plan update line item in budget

CDA email address/ Business cards

LK has business cards now. VD will bring some to library.

Sidewalk repair

BW contacted Alan at DPW about complete streets drawings and changes were made.



NEW BUSINESS

City of Greenfield website/accessibility features

VD wrote to Mayor's Office and the CDA can provide feedback on the new site before it goes live. BW had shared a Forbes article that described how automated accessibility systems for websites might not be that great. BW has had mixed success utilizing closed captions in City meetings. LK said that UCP folks suggested having low vision individuals try out the new website.

Affordable connectivity program

LK explained that it is a federal program that allows you to get a discount on your internet bill. GCET offers it. There are income eligibility guidelines.

RAFT and home modification loan program

LK would like people to know about the availability of these programs. PM suggested linking the Community Action website.

Announcements

LK stated that US Access Board has a lot of great training.

Next meeting July 14, 2022

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn by Ginny, second Doug - unanimous

Adjourned at 2:16 pm