



Roxann Wedegartner  
Mayor

City of  
**GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS**

**COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ACCESS**

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*Members:*

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

**Greenfield Commission on Disability Access (CDA)**

Thursday, August 18, 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:**

Christian LaPlante, Community Development  
MJ Adams, Community Development  
Athena Lee Bradley, City of Greenfield Grant Writer

LK called the meeting to order at 1:00PM

**Approval of the minutes from July 14, 2022**

Motion to approve minutes by LK, second DM. All in favor 4-0.

**Treasurers report Postponed until September 2022**

Reporting every 3 months now, quarterly.

**Guest speaker, City of Greenfield Grant Writer Athena Lee Bradley**

MOD Municipal ADA Grant – Athena had been working with the Mayor to potentially do ADA improvements on the Leavitt Hovey House. However, if any work is done it will trigger laws that require all work to be done which will increase costs to millions of dollars. Designs need to be created before accepting a MOD grant. The City will instead look to get designs for City Hall and the Leavitt House so the City can apply for the MOD grant in the future.

New project is instead sidewalk repair. DPW can create designs. Athena asked the commission for a list of priorities for repairs.

LK wonders if rather than a full reconfiguration the bathrooms and ramp could be the focus at City Hall. Athena stated that designs are still needed before applying for the grant. MJ added that her department put in a capital request for an architectural study at City Hall which was not granted.

BW added that the parking garage ramp needs to be in compliance with an additional hand rail and an actuator/button.

VD stated that she would like to see a plumber look at the City Hall bathrooms rather than an architect. BW added that City offices in the Leavitt Hovey house do not seem feasible.

Athena would like to be on the CDA agenda for September to follow up.



## **ONGOING ISSUES**

### **Certifying authority for Perkins library**

BW had been looking into whether members of the commission could certify people to use the talking book system.

### **Building access /historical buildings**

BW had a citizen email him about how the library was determined to be unfeasible as an accessible library by the historical commission.

### **Community preservation act**

LK went to the CPC's meeting and it seemed like things were positive. People seem to be aware that places need to be ADA. There was a lot of discussion about affordable housing. Jeff Dougan stated at an MOD meeting that CPA money was used for a Freedom Grit wheelchair.

### **COVID-19 information**

LK mentioned low vision test kits can be available. VD will look into it with the Health Department.

### **Municipal ADA Grant**

VD added that she would like to check in that DPW completed the items at Sanderson Street (doorway, actuator, path to door). MJ noted them.

BW mentioned how the sidewalk heading the Green River Swimming Pool just ends part way. No wheelchair access on Green River Bridge either. VD had seen a fall in the swimming pool parking lot and worked with the DPW to get the hole fixed. DM added that when someone falls the City is compelled to fix the issue immediately by law.

## **City of Greenfield website evaluation of accessibility features**

BW has concerns about the largo.com website that was used as an example for the City's new site. MJ suggested addressing concerns to Caitlin in the Mayor's Office.

## **Sidewalk repair**

LK received a request from L'aura about whether it worth pursuing a radio ad for street repairs. VD stated the City already has a list of which sidewalks need to be fixed. BW concerned about the reach of radio to other towns causing confusion. VD wonders if CDBG funds can play a role in getting sidewalks fixed.

LK received an email about a meeting for the Elm Terrace repairs. BW and DM might be able to go.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Report from regional commission on disability meeting**

LK stated that one of the towns at the meeting had an ADA picnic celebration. Outdoor dining with wooden platforms that were level with the curb were a great success. Visitable homes and universal design were also discussed.

MJ and the Mayor will be looking into the CDA's involvement with projects earlier.

## **Announcements**

**Next meeting September 8, 2022**

## **Adjournment**



Motion to adjourn by Lynne, second DM. All in favor.

