



Roxann Wedegartner  
Mayor

City of  
**GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS**  

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**COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ACCESS**

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*Members:*

Douglas Mayo – Chair  
Virginia DeSorgher  
Robert Williford  
Lynne Kelley – Alternate

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

Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 1:00 pm

Via Zoom

**Members present:**

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

**Members absent:**

**Also present:**

Christian LaPlante, Community Development  
Anna Oltman, Community Development  
Ellie Mandell  
Susan Worgaftik  
Pamela McBride

DM called the meeting to order at 1:02PM

**Approval of the minutes from April 13, 2023**

Motion to approve the minutes as written by VD, second BW, all in favor with LK abstaining 3-0-1

**Treasurers report – next update in July**

n/a

## **ONGOING ISSUES**

### **Transition plan updates**

AO stated that there is CDBG funding for architectural barrier removal at City Hall. Currently acquiring an architect for first floor bathrooms accessibility improvements.

### **Building access**

VD stated that she visited Elm Terrace with BW. Sign was not in appropriate place but there was an actuator. Toured entire building and ramp access has been greatly improved. Actuator on that side was not working and Tom Guerino stated he would get it fixed. BW stated that there is not a lot of traffic according to housing authority. VD felt that housing authority was listening.

BW stated that he saw that there was paving by the library that would close the back door. It is the paving of the parking lot not the ramp.

LK requested discussing a charging station for wheelchairs once again, perhaps near library.

### **COVID-19 information**

LK stated that the emergency status has been lifted affecting getting in home tests but won't affect vaccines. While the government has Paxlovid stockpiled it will be free but after that likely not. If you have at home tests make sure to test expiration date. BW has seen notices from FDA that some testing kit manufacturers are stopping.



### **Program participation with Council on Aging**

LK stated that the program is in the bulletin. June 13<sup>th</sup>. BW stated Perkins library will also be there. LK will give some opening remarks at the beginning of the program.

### **Sidewalk repair**

VD stated that the repair program will begin later in the spring. VD would like to see tree planting with repair.

### **Portland Loo**

VD has no updates

### **Community preservation act projects**

CL stated that the CPA projects will be discussed at the May 17 council meeting. VD does not see any issues with those being approved.

### **Participation in podcast**

LK stated that Aaron Kupec has left the city so the plan to be on the podcast is on hold.

### **Commission on Disability assistance to Green Fields Market Americans with Disabilities Act planning**

BW moved to drop this item as an agenda item rather to have the Wilsons project as one single item encompassing both projects. LK second. All in favor 4-0.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **242-262 Main Street Wilson's Zoning Board of Appeals Review**

BW looked at the plans at AO's office and saw very little that was a problem. Residential apartments are pretty small. Accessible

apartments are spread out. No difficulties with Green Fields Market. There are issues with ramp railing labeling. Landing area for ramp is also too small. Issue with curb cut where if it is greater than 6 inches it also needs rails. Might be easier to make a level surface instead of all the curb cuts.

CL stated that written comments are due to ZBA by tomorrow May 12, 2023.

VD had not had a chance to look over the plans in detail

BW stated that it would be easier to review if there were electronic copies of the plans.

BW stated that HUD used Universal Federal Accessibility Standards rather than ADA. Access Board is saying that HUD will adopt ADA but BW has not seen that happen yet.

BW moved to ask projects that comewhich accessibility standard was used to create designs. Second LK. All in favor 4-0.

BW shared an example that Fair Housing bathroom standards are not the same as UFAS/ADA.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

AO received an email from an individual from Unpaved Trails for All about a bill that would set up a working group that would create best practices for making trails more accessible. Individual has asked CDA to write a letter of support for the bill. AO has asked for an example letter. AO can also send a powerpoint that was sent to her.

VD was asked to join a focus group about disparities in healthcare/seniors. She will attend 3 times. VD also shared that it has come to her attention that many of Greenfield's large buildings do not have access to GCET internet. Many of these buildings are home to economically disadvantaged populations. VD is advocating for GCET to add a building each year.

LK stated that there is a statewide commission on disability meeting coming up. LK also asked how many accessible apartments are in the Wilsons plans. BW stated they have exceeded the 5% rule.

**Next meeting June 8, 2023**

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by VD, second BW. All in favor 4-0.

