



Merrimac Commission on Disability Meeting Minutes

TOWN OF MERRIMAC

Meeting Date: February 3, 2021

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Remote Meeting via global.gotomeeting.com

Members Present:

Christopher Gaudet, Chairman
Robert Hart, Vice Chairman
John Joseph Murphy, Treasurer
Kathleen Sullivan, Secretary
Ann Marie Murphy, Member
Charlotte Eileen Stepanian, Member
Bob Sinibaldi, Member/ADA Compliance Officer

Members not Present:

Anne Brown, Member
Jeffrey MacLeod, Alternate
Margaret Sullivan, Member

Agenda Item No: 1

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Robert Hart made a motion to accept the agenda for the February 3, 2021 meeting. John Murphy seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion. The agenda was accepted.

Agenda Item No: 2

Approve Minutes from December 14, 2020 Meeting

Commission on Disabilities members considered the minutes. Eileen Stepanian made a motion to accept the minutes from the December 14, 2021 meeting. Robert Hart seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion. The minutes from the December 14, 2020 meeting are accepted.

Agenda Item No: 3
Institute for Human Centered Design Contract Update

All paperwork was approved by counsel and is on the Board of Selectmen's Agenda for approval at their next meeting.

Agenda Item No: 4
MOD Grant Update

The COD grant application was denied.

Agenda Item No: 5
Shared Streets Grant Update

The Shared Streets Grant application was denied. There is another round of grant proposals due in March. If the grant is received, the money has to be spent by May 2021. The COD discussed the timelines involved. There may not be enough time for curb cuts. Robert Sinibaldi suggested that there could be time to complete zero grade curb cuts because granite will not need to be ordered.

Kathleen Sullivan made a motion to apply for a \$30,000 Shared Streets Grant for curb cuts near schools to be completed by the DPW. Robert Hart seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion.

Agenda Item No: 6
Funds Needed for Town Hall Ramp

An amount of \$5,000 is needed to complete the Town Hall Ramp. The railings need to be painted and the Power Door Opener needs to be installed. Also, the issue of drainage needs to be addressed.

Robert Hart made a motion that if the COD receives expected earmarked funds, \$5,000 will go toward finishing the Town Hall Ramp and the remaining \$15,000 will be spent on curb cuts.

Eileen Stepanian seconded the motion.

Members unanimously accepted the motion.

Agenda Item No: 7
Town General By-Law Article V Parking on Sidewalks

Town General By-Laws were reviewed by COD members. People in Merrimac have been parking on the sidewalks in spite of the town by-laws because they do not have enough parking for their residences. Oftentimes mobile homes are parked on sidewalks and hoses and cords are run across the sidewalk. In one instance, a resident removed a town sidewalk and put a driveway in its place. Merrimac does have by-laws but they are not currently enforced. Parking vehicles on sidewalks is an ADA State and Federal violation. COD is working to get new sidewalks and want to be sure they will not be ruined. COD agreed to reach out and invite the Merrimac Chief of Police to participate in the next COD meeting to discuss the issue and to problem solve on how to get the public to stop parking on sidewalks.

Agenda Item No: 8

45K Earmark for Sidewalks

State Representative Lenny Mirra reached out asking if there are any requests from the COD for FY 22 and the COD asked for a \$45,000 earmark to be used toward ADA compliant curb cuts and sidewalks.

Robert Hart made a motion to accept the earmark. Eileen Stepanian seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion.

Agenda Item No: 9

Adjourn

Next Meeting: March 3, 2021 at 6:30 REMOTELY on GoTo Meeting.

Eileen Stepanian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. John Murphy seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

List of Documents and Other Exhibits Used at Meeting:

Article V: Sidewalks and Highways

Article XIV: Violations of Town By-Laws

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kathleen Sullivan, Secretary

Minutes Approved by Committee on:

Chairman Signature:

Vice Chairman Signature:

Secretary Signature: