



Town Clerk Date/Time Stamp

Merrimac Commission on Disability Meeting Minutes

TOWN OF MERRIMAC

Meeting Date: June 2, 2021

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Merrimac Public Library, 86 West Main Street, Merrimac, MA

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
Margaret Sullivan, Member
Brienne Walsh, Member

Members not Present:

Anne Brown, Alternate

Agenda Item No: 1

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:33 p.m.

Robert Hart made a motion to accept the agenda for the June 2, 2021 meeting. John Murphy seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion. The agenda was accepted.

Agenda Item No: 2

Approve Minutes from May 5, 2021 Meeting

Commission on Disabilities members considered the minutes.

John Murphy made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 5, 2021 meeting.

Robert Hart seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion.

The minutes from the May 5, 2021 meeting are accepted.

Agenda Item No: 3

Sidewalks and New Member Brienne Walsh Update from Selectman Meeting

Brienne Walsh's membership to the MCOD was approved by the Board of Selectmen.

A letter from the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board was received and the contents indicated that the town is responsible for snow removal from sidewalks. The letter is under review from Merrimac's Town Counsel.

Agenda Item No: 4

Discuss Possible Changes to Meeting Time and Location

Members discussed changing the time and location of monthly COD meetings. For now, the meetings will still be held at the library.

Kathleen Sullivan made a motion to change the monthly meeting times for the COD to 7:00 p.m. Margaret Sullivan seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion.

Agenda Item No: 5

Vote on Number of Members for Next Year

Selectmen approved moving Jeffrey MacLeod off the COD and replacing the alternate position with Anne Brown. The COD will have nine members and one alternate. Eileen Stepanian made a motion to keep membership at nine with one alternate. Robert Hart seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion.

Agenda Item No: 6

DPW Director Update on Shared Streets Grant Work on Curb Cuts

Robert Sinibaldi updated the COD on the progress with curb cuts. The curb cuts on Church Street have been completed and look good. The DPW is preparing to

complete more curb cuts and some sidewalk restoration. Robert Sinibaldi reminded the COD that many sidewalks will need restoration or replacement before they can have curb cuts added. Hopefully the recent grant proposal will get approved and more money can be spent on sidewalks. The DPW Director, Crew, and Steve Merrit did a great job and will install four more curb cuts near the Sweetsir School by the end of June.

John Murphy made a motion to release funds in the amount of \$12,200 to pay for the curb cuts. Robert Hart seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion.

Agenda Item No: 7

Approve \$84.70 for Annual Email Subscription

Having a separate email for the COD costs \$84.70.

Brienne Walsh made a motion to pay the annual email fee. Ann Murphy seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion.

Agenda Item No: 8

Institute for Human Centered Design Update

COD members considered a letter from Gregory Carell, President of Architects Planners Interior in response to the Police Station needs. There is a Public Safety meeting with the Carrell Group and tomorrow. IHCD checked with MAAB and Gregory can reach out to MAAB or Town Counsel. Public access needs to be fixed so that it is accessible (meeting rooms and two bathrooms but not the booking area).

Robert Sinibaldi made a motion to authorize Chistopher Gaudet to obtain legal counsel on behalf of the COD. Margaret Sullivan seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion.

Agenda Item No: 9

Shared Streets Application for \$132,700

COD applied for a grant for new crosswalks at the Sweetsir School. Decision will be made by the end of June.

COD also applied for Elizabeth Warren Earmark Grant for \$850,000 to connect the two schools: One and a half miles of roads and six miles of sidewalks.

Also, Senator DiZoglio's \$45,000 Earmark will make it into the Bill for 2022.

Robert Sinibaldi made a motion to authorize Christopher Gaudet to accept grant money and receive approval by the BOS on behalf of the COD. Margaret Sullivan seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion.

Other News:

Town Hall ramp is looking good. A new door with Push Button Power Door Opener will be installed soon with money from the CARES Act.

Agenda Item No: 10

Adjourn

Next Meeting: August 4, 2021 at 7:00 at the Merrimac Public Library

Robert Hart made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Eileen Stepanian seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

List of Documents and Other Exhibits Used at Meeting:

Letters of Support for Shared Streets and Spaces grant from Police Chief, School Department, and Board of Selectmen.

Shared Streets and Spaces Grant Application

May 2021 Easterseals Study on the Impact of COVID-19 on People With Disabilities

May 12, 2021 Letter to Eric Shears from Architects Planners Interiors

May 20, 2021 Letter to Chris Gaudet from the IHCD

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kathleen Sullivan, Secretary

Minutes Approved by Committee on:

Chairman Signature:

Vice Chairman Signature:

Secretary Signature:

