



Town Clerk Date/Time Stamp

## Merrimac Commission on Disability Meeting Minutes

# TOWN OF MERRIMAC

Meeting Date: March 2, 2022

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Virtual Meeting Through Zoom

### Members Present:

Christopher Gaudet, Chairman  
Robert Hart, Vice Chairman  
Kathleen Sullivan, Secretary  
Charlotte Eileen Stepanian, Member  
Bob Sinibaldi, Member/ADA Compliance Officer

### Members not Present:

John Joseph Murphy, Treasurer  
Ann Marie Murphy, Member  
Brienne Walsh, Member  
Margaret Sullivan, Member  
Anne Brown, Alternate

### Agenda Item No: I

#### **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 6:32 p.m.

### Agenda Item No: II

#### **Approve Agenda**

Robert Hart made a motion to accept the agenda for the March 2, 2022 meeting. Bob Sinibaldi seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion. The agenda was accepted.

### Agenda Item No: III

#### **Approve Minutes from February 2, 2022 Meeting**

Commission on Disabilities members considered the minutes. Robert Hart made a motion to accept the minutes from the February 2, 2022 meeting. Bob Sinibaldi seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion. The minutes from the February 2, 2022 meeting were accepted.

### Agenda Item No: IV

#### **Old Business**

1. **Shared Streets Grant for Church Street Improvements-No Updates**
2. **\$45,000 Earmark for ADA Improvements at Sweetsir and Doangue Schools sent to Representative Mirra and Senator Dizoglio-No Updates**
3. **\$45,000 Special Article Request for Sidewalk Improvements-No Updates**
4. **Approval from Sean Croninn to apply balance of ADA Transition Plan grant to website ADA compliant software if needed.**

Christopher Gaudet talked with Carol Traynor from Cable Access. Cable Access can help the town with funding for ADA compliant software for the town web site as long as the software also meets needs Cable Access has for compliance. Christopher Gaudet will reach out to Carol Traynor, Alyssa Sexton to set up a Zoom call with Audio Eye representatives to review what they could provide to the town and Cable Access for ADA compliant software.

### Agenda Items No: V

1. **Locust Street playground slide pointed out in ADA Transition Plan:** The slide at the new playground is two inches too short. To be ADA compliant the slide needs to be 11 inches from the ground. It is now nine inches off the ground. Christopher Gaudet reached out to Jason Corbett from Little Tykes and discovered there is no way to fix the height without removing the entire structure. COD members determined that for now, the structure will be left as is due to the expense involved. There have been no issues or complaints so far with the playground access. Bob Sinibaldi explained that he is still waiting for safety harnesses to arrive from England.
2. **Draft Copy Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policies, Procedures, and Practices:** Currently the town has no ADA policy in place. Christopher Gaudet created a draft for the COD members to review/revise/edit. Members will also research resources that could provide reasonable accommodations

for people with disabilities to access town activities, resources, and events.  
COD will continue to revisit the Policies, Procedures, and Practices.

**Agenda Item No: VI**

**Open Discussion:** Chirstopher Gaudet did attend the Capital Planning Meeting and proposed the \$45,000 for sidewalks.

**Agenda Item No: VII**

**Adjourn**

Next Meeting: April 6, 2022 at 6:30 at Merrimac Public Library  
Kathleen Sullivan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Eileen Stepanian seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

List of Documents and Other Exhibits Used at Meeting:

Town of Merrimac Evaluation of Non-Discriminatory Policies and Practices 082721  
Draft Americans with Disabilities Act  
Playground at Locust Street

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kathleen Sullivan, Secretary

Minutes Approved by Committee on:

Chairman Signature:

Vice Chairman Signature:

Secretary Signature: