



Town Clerk Date/Time Stamp

## Merrimac Commission on Disability Meeting Minutes

# TOWN OF MERRIMAC

Meeting Date: May 5, 2021

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Remote Meeting via [global.gotomeeting.com](https://global.gotomeeting.com)

### Members Present:

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

### Members not Present:

John Joseph Murphy, Treasurer  
Ann Marie Murphy, Member  
Charlotte Eileen Stepanian, Member  
Anne Brown, Member  
Jeffrey MacLeod, Alternate

Also Present: Brienne Walsh, Merrimac Senior Center Director

**Agenda Item No: 1**  
**Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m.  
Robert Hart made a motion to accept the agenda for the May 5, 2021 meeting. Robert Sinibaldi seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion. The agenda was accepted.

**Agenda Item No: 2**  
**Approve Minutes from April 7, 2021 Meeting**

Commission on Disabilities members considered the minutes.  
Robert Hart made a motion to accept the minutes from the April 7, 2021 meeting. Margaret Sullivan seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion. The minutes from the April 7, 2021 meeting are accepted.

**Agenda Item No: 3**  
**DPW Director Update on Shared Streets Grant Work on Curb Cuts**

Curb Cuts project is underway on Church Street. The goal is to complete curb cuts to Nichols Street. There have been some elevation issues. In the future, a crosswalk may be needed from Nicholas Street to the other side of Church Street. Future projects will require the funding from the town for engineering. DPW director reports that all \$30,000 of the grant will be spent on curb cuts by the end of May. There are ten curb cuts so far and DPW may be able to work with the mason to install a total of 12 curb cuts. The total number of curb cuts needed in town is 122. Because the COD does not meet again until June, Kathleen Sullivan made a motion to authorize Chris Gaudet to transfer money to pay the invoice for a sum up to \$30,000 once the curb cuts are completed to the satisfaction of the DPW Director. Margaret Sullivan seconded the motion. Robert Sinibaldi abstained from the vote. Christopher Gaudet, Margaret Sullivan, Kathleen Sullivan, and Robert Hart accepted the motion.

**Agenda Item No: 4**  
**William Joyce at MAAB regarding plan for snow removal and sidewalk improvements**

COD members considered an email from William Joyce at the MAAB regarding the town requirements for snow removal. An article from July 28, 2010 by Rich Vetstein was also considered. DPW Director shared that the town does not have the means to clear sidewalks that are not compliant to code. The COD considered the dilemma of how to respond to the email from the MAAB. The complaint is informal

at this point but a response does need to be made and a plan for clearing sidewalks needs to be made. DPW Director shared that the DPW does clear snow from the sidewalks as much as they can from the downtown area and between the schools. COD will let BOS know what is going on. Christopher Gaudet will inform BOS about the situation with the MAAB and the violation regarding non compliant sidewalks and the lack of snow removal. Kathleen Sullivan made a motion to have Christopher set up a meeting with the BOS to discuss the situation. Robert Hart seconded the motion. Robert Sinibaldi and Margaret Sullivan abstained. Kathleen Sullivan, Christopher Gaudet, and Robert Hart accepted the motion.

#### **Agenda Item No: 5**

#### **ICHD Invoices and Daft Self-Evaluation/Transition Plan for New Police Station**

COD members reviewed the ICHD's draft of the 31 ADA compliance issues with the new Police Station. The new building needs to be brought up to ADA standards. COD is waiting to receive response and feedback from the architect and builder for their plan on how to address the issues. All parties involved have a copy of the ICHD draft of the issues. Kathleen Sullivan made a motion to authorize Christopher Gaudet to share the response from the architect and builder, once it is received, to the Public Building Safety Committee to discuss solutions. Robert Hart seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion.

#### **Agenda Item No: 6**

#### **PRS Invoice \$104.25**

COD members approved the already authorized PRS invoice to pay for laptop back up.

#### **Agenda Item No: 7**

#### **Interest from Brienne Walsh on joining COD**

The COD discussed membership. Members considered an email from Brienne Walsh asking to be a member of the COD. Members considered the lack of participation and attendance of the current Alternate. Members considered Anne Brown's request to be an Alternate.

Kathleen Sullivan made a motion to accept Brienne Walsh as a member of the COD contingent on the BOS approving her appointment.

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

Kathleen Sullivan made a motion to move Anne Brown to the Alternate position of the COD contingent on the BOS approving her appointment.

Robert Hart seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion. Kathleen Sullivan made a motion to remove Anne Jeffrey MacLeod from the Alternate position of the COD contingent on the BOS approving his removal. Robert Hart seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion.

**Agenda Item No: 8**

**Request from Chief Shears on Locations of Vehicles Parking on Sidewalks**

Chief Eric Shears requested the names of specific streets where vehicles have been noted to park on sidewalks. Members suggested the following streets be monitored: Maple Street, Prospect Street, and Quail Ridge. Officers are invited to notice on sidewalk parking when they are driving around Merrimac.

**Agenda Item No: 9**

**Letter From Affordable Housing**

COD members considered a letter to Raymond Cormier regarding the 40B Affordable Housing Project-The Flats at Merrimac Square from The Merrimac Affordable Housing Board of Trustees.

**Agenda Item No: 10**

**Adjourn**

Next Meeting: June 2, 2021 at 6:30 REMOTELY on GoTo Meeting.  
Margaret Sullivan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kathleen Sullivan seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00p.m.

List of Documents and Other Exhibits Used at Meeting:

Institute for Human Centered Design ADA Self-Evaluation Documents for the Police Station

Letter to Raymond Cormier regarding the 40B Affordable Housing Project-The Flats at Merrimac Square from The Merrimac Affordable Housing Board of Trustees dated March 25, 2021.

MAAB emails

Email from Brienne Walsh April 28, 2021

Article: July 28, 2010 by Rich Vetstein "Massachusetts Property Owners Now Have Legal Responsibility to Shovel and Treat Snow and Ice".

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kathleen Sullivan, Secretary

Minutes Approved by Committee on:

Chairman Signature:

Vice Chairman Signature:

Secretary Signature: