



Town Clerk Date/Time Stamp

Merrimac Commission on Disability Meeting Minutes TOWN OF MERRIMAC

Meeting Date: March 6, 2024

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Hybrid: Merrimac Senior Center, 86 West Main Street,
Merrimac, MA and Zoom

Members Present:

Christopher Gaudet, Chairman
Robert Hart, Vice Chairman (remote)
Kathleen Sullivan, Secretary
Bob Sinibaldi, Member/ADA Compliance Officer (remote)
Margaret Sullivan, Member
Brienne Walsh, Member
Bridget Batcheller, Member

Members not Present: Ann Marie Murphy, Member

Also Present: Irina Gorzynski, Select Board Member

Agenda Item No: I

Call to Order

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

Agenda Item No: II

Approve Agenda

Brienne Walsh made a motion to accept the agenda for the March 6, 2024 meeting. Robert Hart seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion. The agenda was accepted.

Agenda Item No: III

Approve Minutes from February 7, 2024 Meeting

Brienne Walsh made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the February 7, 2024 meeting. Robert Hart seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion. The meeting minutes were accepted.

New COD member Bridget Batcheller: New COD member was approved and voted in by the Select Board. Kathleen Sullivan made a motion to accept Bridget Batcheller as a member of the Merrimac COD. Brienne Walsh seconded the motions Members unanimously accepted the motion. Bridget is a member of Merrimac COD.

Agenda Item No: IV

Old Business

1. Complaint Filed with US Access Board regarding Post Office Doors

The United States Access Board recommended that a formal 504 complaint be filed against the United States Post Office. The USAB will file this on behalf of the COD because the doors to the post office are ADA compliant but the COD is asking for accommodations. Christopher Gaudet made a motion to go forward with the formal section 504 complaint. Brienne Walsh seconded the motion. Members accepted the motion unanimously with Robert Sinibaldi abstaining from the vote.

2. 5 East Main Street regarding the newly built non-compliant ramp.

Christopher Gaudet talked to owner Jeff Smith and informed him that Robert Sinibaldi needs to have plans for the new ramp submitted to him so that Robert Sinibaldi can issue a permit. The current ramp is missing a compliant ramp, door, and parking space. Jeff Smith will reach out to Robert Sinibaldi to see what he needs to do for a permit.

3. Annual Report

Brienne Walsh made a motion to approve the COD Annual Report. Margaret Sullivan seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion.

Agenda Item No: V

Agenda Items

1. Kick off Meeting with Institute for Human Centered Design regarding ADA website review

Kick off meeting was last month and ICHD is starting the review of the website. They will reach out to COD if they have questions.

2. New boat ramp for Lake Attitash

Christopher Gaudet reviewed the drawings for the new ramp. There are plans for two handicapped parking spaces. If there are issues once the ramp is built, COD will check into them.

3. Signed MOD grant for ADA website review

The Select Board approved and signed the MOD grant.

Agenda Item No: VI

Open Discussion

1. A resident of Merrimac asked about transportation to a doctor's office. Senior Center staff will reach out to the resident for options.

2. AARP grant was submitted today requesting \$45,000 for new sidewalks. Timeline for response is four to six weeks (mid May).

3. MOD grant deadline is early this year. May 1-Jun15 is the grant window. COD members discussed applying for a grant. Discussion included using the grant to pay for 3 more push button power door openers for town hall and perhaps a set of rapid beacon solar powered crosswalk lights.

Agenda Item No: VII

Adjourn

Next Meeting: April 3, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. Hybrid: Merrimac Senior Center, 86 West Main Street, Merrimac, MA and Zoom . Kathleen Sullivan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Brienne Walsh seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

List of Documents and Other Exhibits Used at Meeting:

COD February 2024 Meeting Minutes

COD meeting agenda March 2024

Email from Tina Hungerford RE: Request for Push Button Power Door Openers at Merrimac PO

Architectural Barriers Act Compliant Submission

Letter to Joy Iworsley, Merrimac Postmaster

COD 2023 Annual Report

Invoice from IHCD \$12,440

Signed MOD grant for website review

Lake Attitash boat ramp permit and plans

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kathleen Sullivan, Secretary

Minutes Approved by Committee on:

Chairman Signature:

Vice Chairman Signature:

Secretary Signature: