



Town Clerk Date/Time Stamp

Merrimac Commission on Disability Meeting Minutes

TOWN OF MERRIMAC

Meeting Date: February 4, 2026 Time: 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Hybrid: Merrimac Police Station Meeting Room, 2 Jana Way, Merrimac, MA and Zoom

Members Present:

Christopher Gaudet, Chairman
Kathleen Sullivan, Secretary
Brienne Walsh, Member
Robert Hart, Vice Chairman
Robert Sinibaldi, Member/ADA Compliance Officer
Bridget Batcheller, Member
Courtney L'Abbe, New Member

Agenda Item No: I

Call to Order

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

Agenda Item No: II

Approve Agenda

Robert Sinibaldi made a motion to accept the agenda for the February 4, 2026 meeting. Brienne Walsh seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion. The agenda was accepted.

Agenda Item No: III

Approve Minutes from October 1, 2025 Meeting

Commission on Disabilities members considered the minutes from the October 1, 2025 meeting. Robert Hart made a motion to approve the minutes. Brienne Walsh seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion. The meeting minutes were approved.

Agenda Item No: IV

Old Business

1. Institute for Human Design ADA website review

No updates at this time. COD is waiting to hear update.

2. \$50,000.00 earmark request to refinish the basketball court surface and create accessible access points at the Donaghue School

Alyssa Sexton has completed the contract process with the DPW and the project will be started in the spring. Boston Tennis and Surfacing has the proposal.

3. FY26 MOD Grant for Curb Cuts

The contract was received for the \$30,000 grant for curb cuts on School Street and Union Street and the project will be completed in the spring.

4. Board of Health October 8, 2025 meeting

Christopher Gaudet met with the Board of Health. They want to know how to get the side door at Town Hall to be open at all times. This issue was previously discussed and at this time it is not feasible due to security concerns.

5. Open Space and Recreation Plan

There is a grant to create a plan for the property. The Open Space and Recreation Committes asked for a COD member to sit on the committee. There will be two public hearings on this plan. Christopher Gaudet will be a member of the Committee.

Agenda Item No: V

Agenda Items

1. Ann Murphy

Brienne Walsh made a motion to excuse Ann Murphy from her membership with the COD. She has other commitments at this time and is not able to attend COD meetings. Robert Hart seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion to excuse Ann Murphy from the Commission of Disabilities and members noted that they appreciated her work over the years.

2. Courtney L'Abbe (New Member)

Robert Sinibaldi made a motion to accept Courtney L'Abbe as a new member of the COD. Brienne Walsh seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion.

3. Advocate \$45,000.00 be added to the Highway Department FY27 budget for sidewalks.

FINCOM meeting is in three weeks on February 25, 2026. Christopher Gaudet and Robert Sinibaldi will attend the meeting to review the need for sidewalks in town and advocate for the funding from the town.

4. 2025 Annual Report Due March 4th

Brienne Walsh is completing the COD annual report for 2025.

5. Light Department Schematic Design

The Light Department website indicates that they are making ADA improvements. Christopher Gaudet reached out to Mary at the Light Department who clarified that they are not making updates to the current building but to another building on Mill Street because the light department is hoping to move there. No improvements are being made on Main Street. The light department staff are considering selling the current building and moving to Mill Street. A schematic was shared with the COD and upon review, there are big concerns with ADA compliance. COD is concerned with sidewalk and other access. COD will monitor the process. Parking will also need to include an ADA accessible EV charging station in addition to other parking spaces.

Agenda Item No: VI

Open Discussion

Brienne Walsh reported that recently the Senior Center had to complete a MASSDOT audit compliance process. The state representative reported that the website and the published documents in Merrimac were exemplary with ADA compliance and accessibility.

Agenda Item No: VII

Adjourn

Next Meeting: March 4, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. Hybrid: Merrimac Police Station Meeting Room, 2 Jana Way, Merrimac, MA and Zoom

Robert Sinibaldi made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Brienne Walsh seconded the motion. Members unanimously accepted the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

List of Documents and Other Exhibits Used at Meeting:

COD October 2025 Meeting Minutes
COD meeting agenda February 2026
FY 2026 Municipal ADA Improvement Grant
CMR 541 Curb Cut Regulations
Merrimac Commission of Disabilities
Email from William Joyce to Christopher Gaudet regarding Snow clearance from Sidewalks.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kathleen Sullivan, Secretary

Minutes Approved by Committee on:
Chairman Signature:

Vice Chairman Signature:

Secretary Signature: