

**Commission on Disability Meeting**  
Minutes for November 21<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 4:30PM  
Worcester City Hall, Levi Lincoln Chamber,  
Room 309, 3<sup>rd</sup> Flr.

**Attendance:**

**Members Present:** Robert Bureau, Robert Bilotta, Nancy Garr-Colzie, John Gleason, Fitzroy Hall, D. Karuna, Paul Keister, Elizabeth Myska, Joseph Prochilo, Stephen Stolberg

**Members Absent:** Douglas Russell, Jr., Lindsey Silva

**Staff:** Jayna Turcek, Dawn E. Clark

**Guests:** Eric Batista, City Manager's Office; Stephen Rolle, Director of Planning

**Welcome, Call to Order & Introductions**

Chairperson Prochilo called the meeting to order. Commissioners introduced themselves.

**Approval of September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Minutes**

Commissioner Garr-Colzie moved approval and Commissioner Bilotta seconded the motion. The Commission unanimously approved the October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 minutes as written.

**City Deaf Task Force Presentation (Part II)**

This presentation was tabled to a future date.

**Complete Streets Policy**

Eric Batista, City Manager's Office and Stephen Rolle, Director of Planning spoke to a new policy enacted by City Manager Augustus. The policy was submitted to city council on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 and referred for discussion at the Public Safety Committee November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The purpose of the policy is to facilitate the development of an integrated multimodal transportation system that provides safe convenient and efficient accommodation for all modes of transportation including walking, bicycling, driving and transit.

## **Feedback on restaurant accessibility audit criteria**

Members of the Commission were satisfied with the data points for the four disability categories presented in October.

## **HR 620 Update and statewide COD advocacy letter**

Chairperson Prochilo drafted a letter about the HR 620 bill that would negatively impact the impact and enforcement of the 1990 & 2010 ADA Title III civil rights for people with disabilities. He also compiled a list of addresses etc. for all the local committees and Commissions in the state. Commission motioned unanimously to have letter sent on behalf of the Commission on Disability with Joseph signing as Chairperson.

## **Upper Main Street construction and request for dedicated pedestrian paths where sidewalks are impacted**

Pictures of the effort to make an alternative pedestrian pathway were shared with the Commission. Over the weekend the barrels used were moved so getting through in a wheelchair etc. was not possible. Signs to direct pedestrians had also been reportedly stolen. The Commission voted to request DPW to develop a more substantial dedicated walkway for pedestrians possibly using jersey barriers.

## **Review of AAB notices and applications: City properties in bold**

### Variance

- 90 Commercial Street, Docket # TBD
- 15 Hamilton Street, Docket # TBD

Representatives from 15 Hamilton Street property were present to inform the Commission of their plans to meet accessibility given the nature of the building's structure and property lot size.

The Commission voted to support the variance request and suggested a second parking space might be added. The representative thought that one could be provided on the side of the building, but would not be able to be on level ground.

- 486 Chandler Street, Docket # TBD

### Decision

**140 Mill Street (72 Coes Street), Docket # V17 272**

## **Suggestions for upcoming agenda items**

None were made.

## **Announcements:**

- **WRTA Transportation Planning Advisory Meeting**  
Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 1-2:30pm, WRTA HUB, 60 Foster Street
- **REDD (Rights, Equality and Dignity for the Disabled)** Dec. 5th, 2017, 4:00 – 5:30PM, YWCA, Members Lounge
- **Audio Journal, Accent on Ability Radio Program:** Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 5-6pm, <http://www.audiojournal.net/>
- **Next Commission on Disability meeting:** December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 4:30pm.
- **Emergency Preparedness Meeting:** November 28, 2017 at 1:30 pm, at 2 Coppage Drive

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned.