

COD Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2019

Present: Chairperson Mike McCue, Daryl Blaney, Rose Marie Bissonnette, Lorry Doucet, Carolyn Stump, Lesley Allison

Absent: Marilyn Chambers

Meeting called to order: 6:03pm

1. October Minutes accepted as modified today.
2. Town Matters:
 - a. Gazebo ramp: The Select Board directed to have the ramp disassembled and removed. The Independent Living and Working Center is evaluating the town's ADA requirements and the Town Administrator will have the organization weigh in on the ramp. Mike received a query from a concerned town resident about the removal of the ramp which he passed on to Orlando.
 - b. LCC bathroom: Lesley found the bathrooms to be in compliance with ADA guidelines with 3 exceptions. The women's room's toilet is $\frac{1}{4}$ inch below the compliant 17-19 inch guideline. Also, 2 new towel dispensers, one each in the men's and women's bathrooms, were out of compliance and placed too high on the wall. Action item: Lesley to follow up with a written report with specific ADA guidelines notated and forward to Chair McCue.
 - c. Senior Mart van parking at LCC: Rose is still investigating the issue of the Mart van parking in the handicapped parking space at the LCC.
 - d. Bigelow Gardens have completed the accessible end unit. Daryl reports it looks well done from the outside, although he has not seen the inside.
 - e. The handicapped parking sign out in front of the library is not aligned correctly to the spot as reported by Lorry.
3. Lancaster Accessibility Awareness Month (LAAM):
 - a. Daryl gave a great presentation at the Village Church and perked the interest of a possible volunteer.
 - b. The History of Disability display at the library was well received.
 - c. The College Church program / Accessibility Sabbath: Topic: Invisible Disabilities. The service included multiple speakers, including Rose Bissonnette, as well as a mini health fair.
 - d. Rose suggested and the commission agreed, that the COD take pictures at our events for next year's LAAM and publish them on the website, print media, or social media for improved publicity after the fact.
4. Town website: Lesley has been in touch with Lucas Clark, an employee of Civic Plus, the company that designed the website for the Town of Lancaster. He has forwarded a specific assessment of the site, but made a general claim that the site as designed meets ADA criteria. However, he reports that any documents uploaded to the site may

not be in compliance. He recommended a software fix for this problem called "Audio Eye" which the town could purchase at a cost. He has sent emails with more detailed information to Lesley that require further review. Action item: Lesley to follow up with Civic Plus emails to examine the responses. Lesley also to read email from Mike regarding details of accessible websites. The COD can put together a list of top bullet points for website accessibility to issue to the town clerk for use.

5. Miscellaneous:

- a. Chair McCue brought information he found about a home modification company. Daryl will add the details to the COD resource database.
- b. Brendan Aylward of Unified Health and Performance gave a presentation to "The Arc Tank 3.0" in an attempt to win funding for a new program he has developed called Adaptx. This program will be used to teach exercise trainers how to work with those with disabilities.
- c. After a short discussion about cancelling the December COD meeting, Chair McCue expressed the need to meet, and advised that the December 17th meeting will be held as scheduled.

Meeting adjourned: 7:35pm

Respectfully submitted,
Lesley Allison