

COD meeting May 11, 2020

Here: Diane Loud, Ken Cimeno, John Tocci, Robert Winston, Bernie Chirokas, Ellen Conway, Vicky Berg, Mac Sterling, Tricia Whitehouse

This meeting was held via BlueJeans, in accordance with revised MA Open Meeting laws during the COVID-19 pandemic.

1. No minutes from previous meeting. Will be reviewed at next meeting.

2. Treasurer's Report – Ken Cimeno;

Mar 1 balance: 67,053.43

+ interest            78.08

Mar 31 balance: 67,131.55

Ken reports that finance director Andrea Terkelsen is no longer with the Town of Dedham and he does not have updated info yet as to why we have not received any recent deposits. He has spoken with Jane Lepardo, Treasurer/Collector for Dedham who indicated that the Parking Clerk has also resigned and there is an interim person in this role.

Mac volunteered to call regarding this on May 12. We need to address the larger issue that the money from parking tickets does not appear to be coded to our account on a regular basis.

John brought up the possibility of hiring an independent auditor.

3. East Dedham Sidewalk and Crossing Accessibility Issues – Ken Cimeno

Continued discussion from meeting with Joe Flanagan re: intersection of Bussey and Coburn St (near Condon Park) curb cuts have not been constructed yet and the curbs are very high (18"). Sidewalks are crumbling, poles/signs in middle of sidewalk.

There are currently flashing lights but no buttons for a walk signal, and the curb cuts are approximately 15-20 yards down the street (where oncoming cars will not be expecting a wheelchair user or someone with a stroller to be crossing).

Ken's discussion with Joe indicated that this project is going to take a very long time and the COD's concern is that crossing the street is not direct or safe. Mac inquired about the feasibility of a temporary ramp, but the height of the sidewalk makes it impractical. An added complication is that the entire intersection, including catch basins, need to be reconstructed.

John has asked Ken to take an active role in advocating for the COD and residents with disabilities to find a solution.

4. Handicap Parking Fines and revenue use – John Tocci and Tricia Whitehouse

Reps Ayers and McMurtry had been in support of H2960-1, which would increase HP violation fines and increase our allowable uses for revenue generated by HP violations. The bill was not passed and was written in a confusing manner (i.e., it ended in mid-sentence).

Tricia suggested that we work with our reps to offer support next time it will be submitted. We would like to write it in such a way that it broadens the scope of allowable uses for revenue beyond physical modifications and construction.

5. Newbridge Report – Lee Jensen

Lee was unable to attend, but John gave some basics of this. We will discuss at next meeting.

6. Scholarship process: Vicky Berg

Vicky has been in contact with the school and, due to multiple factors (distance education, COVID-19, and Vicky's current location in FL) has proposed that we request that DHS Guidance select the recipients of the scholarships this year.

7. CART Technology Transfer – Mac Sterling (table)

Future meetings, all to be held at 7pm, remotely until further notice:

June 8<sup>th</sup>

July 13<sup>th</sup>

Aug 10<sup>th</sup>

Sept 14<sup>th</sup>