

Town of Dedham Commission on Disability Meeting

November 23, 2020 -- 7:00 p.m. -- via Zoom

Members Present: John Tocci, Vicky Berg, Ellen Conway, Bernie Chirokas, Ken Cimeno, Diane Loud

John Tocci chaired the meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Ken Cimono read the following into record:

Balance on 8.1.2020 : 73,661.97

Balance on 8.31.2020 : 73,679.63

(\$17.66 added during August)

Balance on 9.1.2020 : 73,679.63

Balance on 9.30.2020: 73,894.65

(\$215.02 added during September)

Manor Playground (Guests):

Brandon introduced himself and his credentials, and thanked the COD for their input, as he feels that it is important to go "above and beyond the ADA" in constructing this playground.

Of the 200k estimate for the playground, almost half is for surfacing

Other expenses include: ramp, a 'friendship swing', fences, Braille signage. There is also the possibility of individuals, businesses, commissions, etc., donating benches, tables, etc. with proper dedications/plaques

There is a meeting this coming Wednesday, October 21 to present to the neighborhood. While they need to stick to the budget, there is flexibility in the details. There is also a presentation to the Finance/Warrant Committee on Wednesday, October 21. If everything goes ahead, they will present at the Town Meeting on November 30 to ask for 200k (using town laws because it is town property).

Motion to support Manor Playground, seconded, voted unanimously by roll call to support this.

Town Meeting:

The November Town Meeting will be held by Zoom. It is possible to have closed captioning via a 3rd party vendor. John Sisson is currently managing technology for the town.

Diane offered to send John some support documents to help people navigate Zoom.

Diane will also contact Judy Foley (technology for DPS) re: CART to keep this moving.

COD Vacancies:

Lee Jensen has moved from Dedham to Cambridge and will resign. Bob Winston resigned due to ongoing health issues. Still have the vacancy left by Mac Sterling.

Nancy Baker has created the posting for vacancies and will let John know when it is ready for us to share. John has had some interest from a couple of people. Interested parties apply and ultimately the Select Board appoints people.

Scholarships:

Scott Heald has asked to defer. A motion was given, seconded and unanimously passed by roll call vote.

Anti-Racism Coalition:

John continues to navigate coordination across a couple of groups (Anti-Racism Coalition of Dedham, Newbridge group)

New Town Hall:

Ken reports that the new town hall is still closed to the public, but is close to occupancy. Anyone interested in a tour should reach out to Ken.

ADA Grant:

John submitted the grant application on October 16th. The Accessibility Best Practices have not been adopted by the town, and the system is currently closed, so we could not adopt them right now even if the town wanted to.

John will get on the Select Board agenda with information about the Accessibility Best practices, what is involved and whether there would be any costs to the town.

New Business:

John received an email from someone with a question about the new parking meters on Court St. and whether they are ADA compliant. Ken went and measured and found that they are compliant but there are hedges creating an issue. Will speak to Joe Flanagan and associated property owners to resolve.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Loud