

## **Town of Dedham Commission on Disability Meeting**

January 25, 2021 -- 7:00 p.m. -- via Zoom

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

John Tocci chaired the meeting.

### **Welcome of New Member:**

Amy Doyle has joined the COD. Introduced ourselves and welcomed her.

### **Meeting Minutes:**

No minutes to review this month. Diane Loud reports that she will have them ASAP.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

We do not have a report this month. The position of Treasurer/Collector for the town is still vacant, which has resulted in delays.

### **Scholarships:**

Only one of the recipients has accessed their money. Vicky will follow up with others.

### **Transportation Committee:**

Town of Dedham and City of Boston are seeking community input regarding needed improvements for transportation and pedestrian safety along the Providence Highway Corridor (between the intersection of Spring Street and VFW Parkway in West Roxbury and the Marine Rotary at Washington Street in Dedham).

Transportation Committee has identified several issues:

- State of sidewalks is very poor in places
- Rotary traffic at Marine rotary doesn't accommodate pedestrians

Bernie will continue representing COD on Transportation Committee; John will provide link to Master Plan Committee

### **Covid-19 Updates/Rollout of Vaccines:**

Bridget Sweet, Interim Director of Health Department, has been managing the Covid vaccine rollout, which will adhere to the following schedule:

- Phase I: Long-term care facilities, first responders, people in jobs that interact with patients/potential Covid cases
- Next: citizens older than 75 years old and those older than 65 who have comorbidities

No further schedule has been finalized. The bottom line is: it will take a while.

There are no current Dedham locations offering the vaccine, with close locations being Norwood and Canton. John asked Bridget about this and she indicated that Dedham did not want to go live with vaccine rollout until they had doses in hand.

Bernie reminded us that we need to amplify the mask mandate as we wait for vaccines to roll out.

**Future ADA Grant Considerations:**

John continues to see if he can get on the Select Board agenda to provide information about the Accessibility Best practices, what is involved and whether there would be any costs to the town.

**New Business:**

Once we have greater visibility into our finances/what is in our account, we should talk about other ways to provide support/accessibility enhancements. The example of Dedham Community House pool and providing floatation devices and/or a better lift was raised. To be discussed at a future meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Loud