Town of Dedham Commission on Disability Meeting

September 23, 2019 Town Hall First Floor Conference Room – 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Tricia Whitehouse, Diane Loud, John Tocci, Ken Cimeno Mac Sterling, Vicky Berg (via phone), Bernie Chirokas, Ellen Conway

Absent: Bob Winston

Guests: Frederick Johnson, Assistant Building Manager

Frank Wu, 247 Needham St

John Tocci chaired the meeting.

July and August 2019 minutes were reviewed, and edits were recommended. Diane will edit and resubmit.

Treasurer's Report:

July 1, 2019 beginning balance: 65,037.52

deposits: 370.00 interest: 138.93

July 31, 2019 ending balance: 65,546.45

Handicapped Parking issues at 224 Bussey St

- The current configuration is 4 parking spaces, with 1 blocked by a handicapped ramp
 - o The ramp was constructed in 2008 and has an acceptable pitch
- The Planning Board approved this parking configuration when the location was a convenience store (2007-2008) and there have been no reviews triggered by any other proposed use of the building, including the gun shop scheduled to open in October 2019
- Mr. Johnson has been assigned to the permitting process, as current building inspector is an abutter to the property and as such has recused himself
- The MA Architectural Access Board code is the relevant code
 - o MA AAB code states that parking lots with fewer than 15 spaces do not require a handicapped parking space (General Law Ch 22 Section 13A)
 - o There have been no changes to the MA AAB code since 2007-2008
- Mr. Johnson states that the plan is in complete compliance with the MA AAB code and Dedham Bylaws
- Any appeals to this decision based on HP issues would need to be brought to the federal DOJ for ADA compliance review

Discussion of building configuration: the only area open to the public is at street level, including a bathroom; the basement cannot be used by the public

• The federal license to sell firearms still needs to be received, surety measures reviewed, and inspections by the Police Chief, Town Planner and Mr. Johnson

Frank Wu addressed the COD and thanked us for our work

• Mr. Wu indicated that he is interested in appealing with the DOJ for the ADA compliance

• His understanding of Dedham Bylaws is that 5 parking spaces are required for this location (1 for every 200 square feet)

Parks and Recreation Master Plan:

Tabled until next meeting. The plan is available on the town website.

Eagle Scout HP logo painting project

- Several parking spaces have been updated with the new logo (Town Hall lot, Keystone lot, Endicott Estate, Memorial Field, DMS)
- John will write an article for Dedham Times
- Ken mentioned that we need to research whether the new logo has been approved at the state, federal or international level, as it is the freestanding sign and not the painted logo which dictates whether a parking space is a dedicated HO space

Municipal ADA grant:

John is waiting on one document from Nancy Baker in order to file the grant application---the change in ADA Grievance Procedure needs to be signed by the Select Board. Nancy will get this signed and return to John. If we do not get it by the deadline, John will file with the old form in place.

Second letter to Hertz:

Ken states that he received a response but has not reviewed. Will scan and circulate to COD.

DHAC pool accessibility issue:

- Tricia received a complaint about the lifts at DHAC for the pool and for the hot tub. A woman who tried to use the lift states that it gets stuck when trying to get out of the pool, despite a stated weight limit of 400 lbs, and the lift for the hot tub is reported to have the same issue
- Ken will look into this tomorrow

New business:

Bernie received a complaint about the sidewalk outside the Blue Bunny being cluttered with too many items and not accessible. Ken will follow up on this.

Future Meetings:

October 21, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. November 4, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. December 9, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Diane Loud