



BARNSTABLE DISABILITY COMMISSION

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Paul Logan, Chair
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Christopher Bartley
Linda McKinney
Stephen Spillane
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Barnstable Disability Commission
Minutes
January 20, 2021
via Zoom from 10 am to 12 pm

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Members present: Paul Logan; Chair, Sheila Mulcahy; Vice Chair, Linda McKinney, Chris Bartley, Stephen Spillane, and Michael Hersey.

Others Present: Mona Solmonte; Parking and Transportation Manager; Sarah Beal, Channel 18 Station Manager; Roberta Miller and Ann Canedy, Cape Cod Art Center; and Tammy Cunningham, Asst. HR Director and staff liaison.

Public comment – None.

Introductions – Chris Bartley introduced Jason Schwartz, American Sign Language Interpreter. Mr. Schwartz recently moved to the Cape and is looking to connect with businesses and institutions that may need his services. Mr. Schwartz's background is working with deaf educators and interpreting for medical hospitals and schools.

Follow up discussion on Funding for Cape Cod Art Center - Roberta Miller stated per the Commission's recommendation she contacted Associated Elevator to discuss the size of the elevator. She was informed that the reason for the size is for emergency personnel to fit a gurney. In order to decrease the size of the elevator the Fire Chief will need to sign off.

Ms. Miller stated the handicap parking spots have been corrected for compliance. A railing and landing has been added to the design and will be installed. Ms. Mulcahy asked about the air quality of the building due to moisture and mold on the Cape.

Total amount of funds needed is \$490,000. To date the CCAC has raised \$430,000. Discussion tabled until February meeting.

Discussion on Closed Captioning for Public meetings – Sarah Beal, Channel 18 Station Manager, discussed the demonstration held in December. The cost of the product is approximately \$12,000 to \$20,000 per year. A decision package has been submitted for the product and they are waiting for budgetary approval for the FY22 budget. The product will caption live meetings and allow for taped meetings to be captioned. The Commission asked Sarah to keep them updated on the status. If the money is not available it would then become a number one priority going forward.

Update from Mona Solmonte, Parking Manager – Mona reported they have been very busy in parking. Paul has assisted with some irate individuals who were found parked in the cross hatch. They are focusing more on educating than ticketing. First offense the focus is on

educating. Ms. Solmonte stated she recently created a flyer to hand out and assist with educating. Paul Logan asked Ms. Solmonte if she would please send him a copy of the flyer. She also stated she had a discussion with the RMV on placards and regulations. It is up to the Town/City to regulate overnight parking.

Approval of the minutes of December 16, 2020 – Steve Spillane moved to approve, Sheila Mulcahy seconded. Unanimous.

Financial Report – Current balance is \$56,056.03.

Discussion with Barnstable Adult Community Center on Office Space – The BACC has offered a space to the Disability Commission to have on onsite office. Commissioners discussed the idea of having office space again. Paul Logan asked Tammy Cunningham to invite Donna Burns, Director of Council on Aging, to the next meeting.

Posters Subcommittee – No update.

MOD Grant update – Tammy Cunningham reported that on 12/23/20 the Town was informed they had been awarded a \$250,000 grant for the hiring of a consultant to conduct a self - evaluation plan and transition plan for the Town. She is working with Liz Hartsgrove and Procurement on the development on the Request for Proposals which is anticipated to go out around the end of January/beginning of February.

Report from the Department of Public Works Project Review subcommittee – Paul Logan stated he spoke with a resident in Barnstable Village about the lack of handicap parking in Barnstable Village. He will continue to work on the matter.

Report from the AAB Variance Request Subcommittee – The Commission held a brief follow up discussion on the copy of the variance request received for renovations being done at Cape Cod Community College. The Commission expressed reluctance on the request and does not support the request for the variance.

Report on Scholarships SubCommittee – Tabled to next month.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy L. Cunningham

**The objective of the Barnstable Disability Commission
is to advise and guide the Town of Barnstable and the general public regarding
issues of accessibility in accordance with the American's With Disabilities Act (ADA).**