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TOWN OF AYER  
TOWN CLERK



**The Ayer Disabilities Commission (ADC)  
Ayer Town Hall, One Main Street, Ayer MA 01432**

Ayer Disabilities Commission

**Minutes of Meeting** – Thursday, January 26, 2023

Location: Ayer Town Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Fl. Meeting Room

Time: 5:00PM

**Minutes:**

In Attendance: D. Cibor, M. Titus, R. Anderson, B. Boisseau, C. Gamache, A. Manoian

Not In Attendance: L. Warner

**Item** - Call Meeting to Order at 5:00PM:

Chair-D. Cibor called the Ayer Disabilities Commission meeting of Thursday, January 26, 2023 to order.

**Item** - Vote on Acceptance of Agenda:

Chair-D. Cibor requested members to review posted Agenda, and if acceptable to make motion for acceptance of Agenda.

Motion by (R. Anderson) to accept Agenda

Second: (M. Titus)

Discussion: (None)

All in Favor: (Unanimous)

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Item** - Welcome & Introductions of Newly Appointed Members of the Ayer Disabilities Commission:

Chair-D. Cibor welcomes the three (3) new members of the Commission including, Russell "Rusty" Anderson, Mindy Titus and Brenda Boisseau. Each of the Commission's new members proceeded to provide some background on their personal & civic interest in serving on the municipal Disabilities Commission, and on their own individual and family life experience living with disability.

**Item** - Establish Commission Meeting Schedule:

The Commission members engaged in an open discussion to determine and establish a permanent meeting schedule for the upcoming year. The members decided to establish a meeting schedule as follows: The last Thursday of each month at 6:00PM.

Motion by (R. Anderson) to establish a meeting schedule of the last Thursday of each month at 6:00PM

Second: (M. Titus)

Discussion: (None)

All in Favor: (Unanimous)

**Item - Review of updated Mission Statement/Name of Commission:**

The Commission members reviewed the DRAFT ADC Mission Statement provided by A. Manoian, and engaged in discussion as to any improvements, additions, deletions, modifications, etc. and for its official acceptance. Chair-D. Cibor suggested the following insertion: "The Ayer Commission on Disabilities is committed to guiding the Town of Ayer to be a better place to live, work, educate, recreate and socialize "for all people, including people with disabilities";".

Motion by (R. Anderson) to amend with suggested text by D. Cibor, finalize and accept the DRAFT version of the Ayer Disabilities Mission Statement as respectfully submitted by A. Manoian.

Second: (M. Titus)

Discussion: (None)

All in Favor: (Unanimous)

**Item - Review Town of Ayer ADA Self-Evaluation & Transition Plan:**

The Commission members engaged in a general discussion about the overall goals, objectives, priorities, and implementation approach to Ayer's (2020) official ADA Self-Evaluation & Transition Plan (84-pages). Manoian provided background as to how Ayer's ADA Plan was developed, funded with grants, formulated, produced, delivered, and submitted for approval to the Massachusetts Office on Disabilities.

The ADA Self-Evaluation & Transition Plan is exceedingly comprehensive and detailed. The Commission members agreed to read, review, digest and prepare notes on the Self-Evaluation & Transition Plan for the upcoming February Meeting – and that the Commission will review & assess the Plan document in 10-page segments with follow-up recommendations/action steps.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Item - Design Review & Comment New "All-Inclusive" Playground at Pirone Park:**

The Commission members agreed to invite Ayer Parks & Recreation Director Jeff Thomas & Chairman of Ayer Parks Commission Jason Mayo to the February Meeting of the Ayer Disabilities Commission to benefit from a brief presentation on the current design approach & plans for an "All-Inclusive" new playground amenity at Pirone Park. The Commission will proceed with working in partnership and support with the Ayer Parks Commission in order to deliver an exceedingly high-quality ADA compliant new municipal playground with outstanding and innovative "All-Inclusive" playground elements and experiences. A. Manoian will forward invitation to Parks & Recreation Director and Parks Commission Chair.

**Item - Comprehensive Re-Design & Re-Construction of Main Street in Downtown Ayer for Safety, Health & Economic Vitality:**

Manoian provided the Commission members with background on the approx. \$7-8 million (STIP) State Transportation Improvement Program project that will result in the comprehensive re-design and re-construction of Main Street & Columbia Street in Downtown Ayer including, new roadway, new sidewalks, new crosswalks, new bicycle lanes, sidewalk shade trees, traffic calming design, new wayfinding signage, and new ADA-compliant infrastructure that will transform Downtown Ayer from a rather unsafe



and unpleasant pedestrian/person with disability mobility environment into one of New England's safest, most accessible, most well-design, and healthful downtown districts – and that will transform it into a much better place to conduct successful business and social experiences for all. To this end the Commission members agreed to schedule and conduct an Ayer Disabilities Commission Mobile Workshop/Tour of Main Street & Columbia Street in Downtown Ayer for Saturday, February 4th at 2:00PM. The ADC Tour of Downtown Ayer will be documented with video and may be Streamed-Live on Facebook for the general public.

**Item - Public Comments:**

No public comments offered at the meeting.

**Item - Meeting Adjournment:**

Chair-D. Cibor requested motion to adjourn the January 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ADC.

Motion to adjourn by (M. Titus)

Second: (R. Anderson)

All in Favor: (Unanimous)

Meeting adjourned at 6:05PM.

*Meeting Minutes respectfully prepared & submitted by Alan S. Manoian, ADC Secretary.*

Date Minutes Approved by ADC:

3/23/23

Signature Indicating Approval:

