



## City of New Bedford Commission for Citizens with Disabilities

### Minutes Commission for Citizens with Disabilities February 21, 2019

#### **Members Present**

Susan Bewsher  
Pam Cole  
Dennis DeMarinis  
Herb "Sonny" Eddleston  
Marsha Fernandes  
George Smith

#### **Others in Attendance**

BG Shanklin, Architect  
Cynthia Wallquist, Exec. Director

#### **Members Excused**

Jaunna Adesso  
Melissa Branco  
Linda Carreiro

**Dennis DeMarinis**, Chair, called the meeting to order @ 6:30 PM and introduced the newest member of the Commission, George Smith. Susan Bewsher moved to elect George Smith Vice-Chair, seconded by Herb "Sonny" Eddleston. Motion carried.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

George Smith made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Susan Bewsher. The motion carried.

#### **Old Business**

- Commission members were reminded to take the Ethics Test and return their Certificate no later than April 5;
- BG Shanklin reported that there has been no movement to replace the Moose Lodge and Congdon School as polling places in their respective wards;
- The SRTA Garage elevator is now working again;
- West Beach Bath House still needs new accessible bathrooms and a way for chairs to transfer; the cost is estimated to be \$100,000.

#### **Chairperson's Report**

- Dennis DeMarinis updated the group on the MA Coalition for the Homeless' RAAP Campaign;
- Mr. DeMarinis' surgery has been postponed; he hopes to return for the April meeting.

## **Executive Director's Report**

Cynthia Wallquist reported that:

- 36 disabled homeowners received services through the Clear Path Snow Removal Program;
- Mali Lim in the Department is working with a new group of wheelchair-users on a cable show and social events. The group should receive approval from Access Westchester, Inc. to serve as its fiscal agent starting June 1, but the group might ask for Commission assistance in the interim;
- Handicapped parking fine revenues have increase since the cost of the ticket was raised.

Marsha Fernandes moved to accept the Executive Director's report; seconded by George Smith. Motion carried.

## **Architect's Report**

BG Shanklin:

- updated the Commission on the Transition Plan status and stated that the draft will be ready for the membership to approve at the next meeting;
- met with DFFM staff regarding the Hazelwood bathrooms improvements and the budget;
- discussed the variance requested by the owner of 14 S. Sixth St. (using basement as a recording studio) and recommended that the Commission not oppose it;
- reported that the suggestion to use trailers as temporary polling sites at Congdon School was not approved.

Marsha Fernandes made motion to accept the Architect's Report, seconded by Herb Eddleston. The motion carried.

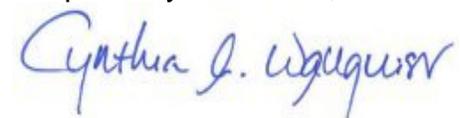
## **Announcements**

- There will not be a meeting in March; the next meeting will be April 25<sup>th</sup>

## **Adjourn**

George Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM; Pam Cole seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Cynthia Wallquist, Executive Director  
(on behalf of Clerk Jaunna Adesso)