

**COMMISSION ON ACCESSIBILITY
MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2013, 3:30 PM
MINUTES**

Chairman Fleischer called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM

Members present: Fleischer, Baxendale, Harker & Vega

Members absent: Taylor, Rechsteiner & Shack

Also present: ADA Coordinator Michelle Collette

BANK OF AMERICA – ACCESS RENOVATIONS

Architect Delia Gott, representing the Bank of America, met with the Commission to discuss plans to renovate the lobby, pedestrian access, and accessible parking spaces at the Bank of America located at 167 Main St. Ms. Gott said there is one accessible parking space in the parking lot today, but it is not van accessible. The existing sidewalk will be replaced with a sidewalk that is not as steep for pedestrian access. The swing of the entrance door will be reversed, and an accessible ATM will be installed in the lobby.

Member Scott Harker asked if power doors would be installed. Ms. Gott said, “no,” because they do not always work properly.

Member Ellen Baxendale expressed concern about the distance from the parking lot to the entrance. Ms. Gott said the new walkway will be much safer because it will not be as steep and it will be closer than the existing sidewalk.

Member Scott Harker asked if two accessible spaces could be provided rather than just one. Ms. Gott said she would look into it, but grading may be a constraint.

The Commission thanked Ms. Gott and the Bank of America for improving accessibility.

TOWN MEETING REVIEW COMMITTEE

Members Scott Harker and Ellen Baxendale updated the Commission on the work of the Town Meeting Review Committee. The Board of Selectmen will provide funds for a four-page survey to be mailed with the Groton Electric Light Department bills. The Committee is still discussing how to address concerns about people who may be housebound and cannot attend Town Meeting.

Chairman Bob Fleischer urged the Committee not to reduce the size of the font so people with visual difficulties would be able to read the survey.

The next meeting will be held May 13, 2013 at 3:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Collette
ADA Coordinator