

**COMMISSION ON ACCESSIBILITY
MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2016, 4:00 PM
MINUTES**

ADA Coordinator Michelle Collette called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM

Members present: Baxendale, Buckhalter, Vega, and Taylor

Members absent: Fleischer, Rechsteiner, and Shack

Also present: ADA Coordinator Michelle Collette and
Sign Language Interpreter Christina Stockin

The Commission met with Town Clerk Michael Bouchard to discuss the newly adopted Early Voting provisions. Mr. Bouchard explained that Early Voting will be permitted for the first time in the Commonwealth for the 2016 Presidential Election. Early Voting will be available for the State Elections in November for even-numbered years (the presidential and gubernatorial elections). This year, Early Voting will begin on Monday, October 24, 2016, and end on Friday, November 4, 2016, during Town Hall hours. There will be extended hours to 7 PM on Mondays and Thursday, and 9 AM to 1 PM on Saturday, October 29, 2016. Check-in, check-out and voting booths will be set up in the first-floor meeting room.

PARKING VIOLATIONS AND MGL CHAPTER 40, SECTION 22G

The Town Clerk forwarded an email message from the Commonwealth's Commission on Disabilities inquiring whether the Town had adopted Chapter 40, Section 22G, which allows fines collected from handicapped parking violations to be given to the Commission on Accessibility.

Member Baxendale meet with Police Chief Don Palma and Executive Assistant Dawn Dunbar to ask about the number of parking tickets issued for handicapped parking violations in Groton. Very fee tickets have been issued. Only one ticket was issued in the past three years.

Member Buckhalter said the Police should ticket cars parking in handicapped spaces during sporting events at the high school. Member Baxendale will follow up with the Police Chief.

COMPLAINTS & CONCERNS

ADA Coordinator Michelle Collette expressed concern that there are not enough accessible parking spaces in the parking lot at the Prescott School, which is now open for public parking. The motion was made by Baxendale, seconded by Vega, to request that the Town provide the required number of parking spaces for this parking lot. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

The motion was made by Vega, seconded by Baxendale, to approve the minutes of August 8, 2016. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Collette
ADA Coordinator