

**COMMISSION ON ACCESSIBILITY
MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017, 4:00 PM
MINUTES**

Chairman Fleischer called the meeting to order at 4 PM in the Town Hall.

Members present: Fleischer Baxendale, Shack, Taylor, and Vega

Members absent: Buckhalter and Rechsteiner

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

SPRING TOWN MEETING - ARTICLE 29

The Commission submitted an article requesting that the Spring Town Meeting adopt MGL Chapter 40, Section 22G, authorizing that funds collected for handicap parking fines be deposited into a special account for use by the Commission on Accessibility.

The motion was made by Baxendale, seconded by Taylor, to support Article 29 at the Spring Town Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

COMPLAINTS

Medical Office at One Forge Village Road - ADA Coordinator Michelle Collette reported that a resident complained to the Building Commissioner about issues with the sidewalk and access to the medical offices at One Forge Village Road. The Building Commissioner issued a violation notice to the owner.

Candidates Night, Black Box Theater at GDRHS - Member Baxendale expressed concerns about problems with Candidates Night which was held at the Black Box Theater at the Groton Dunstable Regional High School. She said the accessible parking spaces are too far from the front door, the front door cannot be opened with the automatic door openers from the outside because of security reasons, and there was no sign language interpreter. She said close captioning would be helpful for Cable TV audiences.

ADA Coordinator Michelle Collette said Sign Language Interpreters are provided upon request, and no one requested a sign language interpreter for Candidates Night.

Member Vega said a live Sign Language interpreter is preferable, but close captioning is acceptable to the deaf community.

The Commission will request that the Democratic and Republican Town Committees find a more suitable location for Candidates Night in the future.

COMPLETE STREETS

ADA Coordinator Michelle Collette reported that the Complete Streets Committee submitted an application for Tier 3 Funding for Construction of four projects including flashing lights at six crosswalks on Main Street and 32 accessible curb cuts with detectable, tactile warning rectangles at intersections on Main Street. MassDOT will notify grant recipients in August 2017.

NEXT MEETING

The Commission's next meeting will be held on Monday, June 12, 2017 at 4 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Collette
ADA Coordinator