

**COMMISSION ON ACCESSIBILITY
MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 2018, 4:00 PM
MINUTES**

Chairman Baxendale called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM at the Groton Commons Community Room, 74 Willowdale Avenue.

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

Members absent: Barron and Vega

Also present: ADA Coordinator Michelle Collette, Jim Lyons and Grant Murphy of the Northeast Independent Living Program (NILP), and resident Jane Fry

REQUEST FOR SUPPORT – JOHN PETROS, 207 GRATUITY ROAD

ADA Coordinator Michelle Collette reported that she received a request for assistance in the permitting process from John Petros, 207 Gratuity Road. Mr. Petros submitted an email dated August 10, 2018, from Elizabeth Petros to Conservation Administrator Nik Gualco, regarding the proposed addition of pavement on his driveway in order to provide safe access for his mother from the driveway to the existing handicapped ramp.

Building Commissioner Ed Cataldo determined that the proposed alteration does not require a building permit or a special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals for work located in the 100 year-floodplain.

The motion was made by Fleischer, seconded by Shack, to urge the Conservation Commission to be flexible and grant a negative determination for the driveway on 207 Gratuity Road so the area can be paved as soon as possible to ensure the safety of Mr. Petros' mother. The motion passed unanimously.

MILL RUN PLAZA SELF EVALUATION-TRANSITION PLAN

The Commission reviewed all the recommendations in the Mill Run Plaza Self Evaluation-Transition Plan, prepared by the Northeast Independent Living Program, as revised at the Commission meeting on July 9, 2018. The motion was made by Taylor, seconded by Shack, to accept the Mill Run Plaza plan as revised on July 9, 2018. The motion passed unanimously.

ADA SELF EVALUATION-TRANSITION PLAN FOR TOWN BUILDINGS

The Commission reviewed the draft Self-Evaluation Transition Plans for ten (10) Town-owned buildings. The plans were prepared by Jim Lyons and Grant Murphy of the Northeast Independent Living Program.

The Commission made minor changes to the plans for the Groton Electric Light Department, Legion Hall, Police Station, Public Library, Town Hall, and Transfer Station.

Since the new Senior Center is under construction, the Senior Center programs are taking place at the Center Fire Station, the Lost Lake Fire Station, the Country Club, and Legion Hall. The Commission had several concerns about access at the Center Fire Station including lack of automatic door openers to get into the building, problem with the crash bar at the front door, lack of automatic door openers for the training room, no curb cut or accessible exit ramp from

the door at the training room to the parking lot, and no accessible parking space near the door to the training room.

The Commission also had concerns regarding access at the Lost Lake Fire Station including the inability to enter the building from the accessible parking space, aisles in the building that should be left clear, and difficult access to the bathroom.

ADA Coordinator Michelle Collette, Mr. Lyons, and Mr. Murphy will visit both fire stations before the next meeting on October 15, 2018. Ms. Collette will meet with Fire Chief Steele McCurdy and COA Director Kathy Shelp to make them aware of the Commission's concerns.

The Commission will review the plans for the Groton Country Club and Prescott School at the next meeting on October 15, 2018.

MINUTES

The Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes of July 9, 2018.

NEXT MEETING

The Commission's next meeting will be held on Monday, October 15, 2018 at 3:00 PM at Groton Commons.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Collette
ADA Coordinator