

**COMMISSION ON ACCESSIBILITY  
MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2020, 3:00 PM  
MINUTES**

Vice Chairman Jane Fry called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM at the Groton Commons Community Room

Members present: Bob Fleischer, Jane Fry, Lynne Pistorino, Tom Pistorino, Mark Shack, and Alan Taylor

Member absent: Carol Ann Sutton

Others present: ADA Coordinator Michelle Collette, Land Use Director Takashi Tada

Chairman Mark Shack arrived and chaired the meeting.

**MUNICIPAL VULNERABILITY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM**

Land Use Director Takashi Tada met with the Commission to inform members about the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program, funded with a grant from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA). The Town is in the first phase, which includes an assessment of the Town's vulnerabilities. The second phase will be submission of an action grant to implement mitigation measures such as improvements to Broadmeadow Road to address on-going flooding problems.

Mr. Tada invited members to attend a workshop on Thursday, January 16, 2020, from 9 AM to 5 PM at the Groton Senior Center. Weston and Sampson, the Town's consultant, will facilitate the workshop. ADA Coordinator Michelle Collette said she would attend and encouraged members to do so as well.

More information on the program is available at <https://www.mass.gov/municipal-vulnerability-preparedness-mvp-program>

**TALKING BOOK LIBRARY PROGRAM**

The Commission discussed the Talking Book Library Program that was held at the Senior Center on November 15, 2019. The Worcester Public Library did an informative presentation about the resources that are available. Members discussed the programs that are sponsored by the Groton Public Library. The comments from attendees were very positive.

**COMPLAINTS AND CONCERNS**

The Commission discussed options for absentee voting and early voting prior to the Presidential Primary on March 3, 2020. Any questions should be directed to the Town Clerk at 978-448-1100.

Member Tom Pistorino suggested the Commission look into working with the Senior Center and public safety officials to install lock boxes on homes of people with disabilities so that first responders could enter the house without breaking down the door in case of an emergency.

**MINUTES**

The Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes of August 26, 2019; October 7, 2019; and November 15, 2019.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 9, 2020 at 4 PM at the Groton Commons Community Room. *(Note: The meeting was not held as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Commission did not meet again until August 6, 2020.)*

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Collette  
ADA Coordinator