

Disability Commission Meeting minutes: January 24, 2019

Meeting called to order by Maria Luise at 6:40 p.m.

1. **Roll Call:** Maria Luise, Nichole Mossalam, Kerlyne Pacombe, Frank Cina, Marilyn Andrews and participation by a Malden resident via phone.
2. **Commission Meeting Minutes** were approved by Maria Luise and seconded by Frank Cina.
3. **Updates or Action Items** that need to be addressed from previous meeting:
 - **By-Laws:** Commission members discussed the “Town of Arlington Disability By-Laws” that Maria shared and “Malden SEPAC By-Laws” from Marilyn. The Commission will review these documents and send any edits to Maria only. Edits can only be shared with one person in order to keep in compliance with the Open Meeting Laws. Maria will collate all edits and the Commission will share them at the next Commission meeting on February 28, 2019.
 - **Mission Statement:** Commission members discussed the framework for this statement. This discussion included the following ideas:
 1. Statement with broad language to allow for more latitude.
 2. Language should be consistent and refer to “differing abilities” and eliminate the word, “disability.”
 3. Include all abilities (not disabilities): “physical, mental health, cognitive, sensory, and health.”
 4. Disabilities “include and are not limited to...”
 5. Commission referred to State of Massachusetts, General Law, Title VII, Ch. 40, 8J to be included.
 6. Mission statement should show our philosophy, model what we represent.
 7. Once the Commission has finalized the Mission Statement, there will be a dedicated page to the Disability Commission on the City website. Maria will include an Introduction piece for this page. There will also be an e-mail account that will designate Nichole as the Commission Chair as the contact.
 - **What other Disability Commissions are doing:** Nichole will continue with her outreach to some local disability commissions and report back at the February meeting.
 - **Lime Bikes:** Maria gave the update from a concerned citizen who spoke at the 12/20/2018 Commission meeting. The citizen’s concern was that some Lime Bikes users were leaving the bikes in places in the city that blocked access. Maria met with Kevin Duffy. Lime Bikes has met with City Council and they are conducting education on this issue.

Malden residents can use “SeeClickFix” application to report any concerns of this nature. Lime Bikes has access to this and will follow-up. Lime Bikes is planning a 3-step process: 1st time: Notification to rider. 2nd: Rider will receive a phone call from Lime Bikes. 3rd: Loss of Lime Bikes privileges. City will publicize this new policy.

4. New Business

- **Review and Discuss new complaints or correspondence received:**
 1. Maria has reported she has not received any since the last Commission meeting in December 2018. She did share that the City through Kevin Duffy's office is keeping an eye on snow clearing in the Malden Center parking lot and this is improving.
 2. "Snow Angels" was discussed. This is a program used to create a list of volunteers that are matched to help citizens with differing abilities to clear the snow and allow access. Susan Needleman volunteered to be the Contact Person for this project and she will work with Maria.
 3. Concern with access to painted handicap spaces being used by parents and caretakers at Malden school parking lots who do not have a state designated placard. Maria will follow-up with this issue.
 4. Question also was discussed of what is the policy for overnight parking for commercial vehicles. Maria will follow-up on this.
- **Consideration of funds through the Community Block Grant program and possible ADA upgrades:**
 1. The town of Arlington applied for municipal "American with Disabilities" grant and used the money to do an ADA Self-Evaluation. This town used the grant money to fund architectural barriers with program solutions. Commission will start to look for grant opportunities.
- 5. **Scheduling of next meeting:** Next Commission meeting to be held on Thursday, February 28, 2019 at the Senior Center, 7 Washington Street, Malden.
- 6. **Meeting was adjourned at 7:30.**

Maria made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Nichole seconded the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn R. Andrews, Clerk