

**Town of Acton
Commission on Disability
Minutes
February 10, 2011
Acton Town Hall, Room 126
7:00 pm**

Members Present: Danny Factor, Lisa Franklin, Chair, and Brenda Viola, Secretary.

Member Absent: Joy Kohout (Unexcused).

Guests: Peshia Kokis

Documents: Acton Historical District Commission's sketches of South Acton Train Station for Inbound-South and Outbound –North

The Meeting was called to order by Chair, Lisa Franklin at 7:30 pm.

Minutes from January 13th were reviewed and approved as written.

Topics:

For the Record:

-Corrections: Massachusetts State Legislative Breakfast on March 2nd, is *specifically for concerns of people with intellectual disabilities*, to be held in a *different location: The Grand Staircase* in the State House from 10:30 to 12 noon.

-BOS warrant Article on COD Handicapped parking fines on February 28th.

Project Updates:

-Midas: Email from Frank Ramsbottom relays the following information: "Midas was built in 1992 and has not done any work which would require any improvements to comply with current regulations. Midas does need to comply with the regulations which were in effect at the time of construction and to maintain the facilities to that standard. It is not clear to me if the construction was in compliance with the regulation in 1992. I believe that Gary Rhodes was the building inspector at the time and did an excellent job. I am researching the old site plan records to see what was originally proposed and approved. I also have a copy of the AAB regs. in effect at the time. I will let you know when I find out more."

-Moodz: Email from Frank relays: "Moodz has less than 15 parking spaces and therefore does not require an accessible parking space. Plan further discussion with Joy. Suggestion made for a goodwill visit to Moodz.

-Open Door Theater: Lisa contacted them regarding inclusion being mentioned in their advertisements. It will be discussed with their Board of Directors.

-Savoury Lane: A Building Permit was required for renovations. Concerns were raised about the accessibility of seating close enough to the bar counter.

-Acton Coffee House: Renovations of the former site of the Café Ziba includes plans for 2 accessible bathrooms. Opens February 19th.

-Transportation: Lisa is finding and making contact with additional transportation beyond Acton.

- Community: Danny attended a SPED PAC meeting. Discussion to determine their needs, what kinds of services we can offer them and how we can support them. Ideas: 1) High School students to attend a lecture, offer an internship. 2) social gathering for students with disabilities. 3) find out issues with access in school and in community. 4) what purchases the COD could fund to benefit access, e.g. mandatory professional development, new specific versions of textbooks. Danny is willing to write a letter to Dr. Mills for these purchases. Danny will continue to network with the SPED PAC on support with disability community. He was given authority to write a letter to Nancy.

South Acton Train Station: BOS meeting on February 8th approved Acton Historical District Commission's sketches for the train station. The plan is for the AHDC to continue working with the MBTA to fine tune the specifics of the plan. Lisa has concerns of the current and possible future amendments, including the plinth (architectural base of the building.) Lisa spoke with Frank who has agreed to follow developing designs. Meetings will continue between the AHDC and the MBTA every other week on Friday.

Board of Health Evacuation Transportation/DPH Workshop: COD vs. Town action in general: Tabled. Suggestion made to review details on website for further discussion at a future meeting. Doug Haley to be invited to a meeting.

Dining Guide: A Dining Guide Procedure packet was distributed to members for review at a later date. Discussion tabled for a future meeting.

Ideas for any future Grant Opportunities "burning issues" for Acton 2020 Blog: Tabled.

Closed Captioning and Cable: Tabled.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Viola, Secretary