

**Disability Commission**

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**Meeting date:** Monday, September 14, 2020

**Location:** Remote meeting

NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK  
LINDA S. BOWEN

**Start time:** 6:32 pm

**End time:** 8:06 pm

**Attendees:** Jonathan Smith  
Bruce Frieswick  
Joanna Schomberg  
Washa Liu

**Meeting purpose:** Monthly meeting

**Agenda/Minutes**

**1. Call to order:**

- ❖ The commission meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm.

**2. Roll call:**

- ❖ The roll call of meeting attendees was completed; Jonathan Smith, Bruce Frieswick, Washa Liu, and Joanna Schomberg present remotely.

**3. Approve minutes:**

- ❖ Minutes were presented remotely and approved; no questions.

**4. Treasurer's Report**

- ❖ Bruce is waiting for a confirmation of the balance from Neil. There is no rollover; Bruce will pursue a confirmation..
- ❖ Is there a police update? How are the fines being handled? Need to wait for a report from the Treasurer's Office.

**5. New Business:**

- ❖ Lasell Field project:
  - The Disability Commission accepts the report as written. The Commission is not here to bring into question the results of the report.
  - The M.O.D. will assist the Town of Northbridge with the survey of the field.
  - Bruce met with Jeff Dougan, the contractor, Jonathan Smith, a school official, and Jim Sheehan the Building Inspector.
  - Information has been collected along with previously collected photos of the preliminary work that has been completed.
  - A letter was received from the M.O.D. There is an error; the date should be 8/12/2020. The Disability Commission accepted a motion to change the date. Jonathan will email Jeff that the date has been changed.
  - The report states that the project exceeds 30% of the value of the property. There are no significant items of concern.

- There is good accessibility, the press box may need additional accessibility.
- Additional parking needed as the parking is currently opposite the field. There is no parking within 100 ft.
- The concession stand should be no higher than 36 inches.
- Restrooms meet regulations and are in the Middle School. They were recently renovated.
- Locker rooms are in the Middle School.
- Ownership of the land came into question. It should be noted that the property is managed not owned by the School Committee. There are 3 deeds. In 1930 the property was deeded to the Town of Northbridge's Athletic Association which no longer exists. Further research is needed on the history of the land, maybe from the Town Clerk.
- The next step is to send the report to the people from the above meeting. Names will be emailed to Joanna.

#### **6. Member updates:**

- ❖ Resident survey (all members):
  - Needs to be edited and finalized during the Town Meeting in October.
  - Washa will speak to Jeanne Gniadek at the Board of Health (B.O.H.) and possibly go to their meeting which takes place on the 2nd Monday each month at 6:00 pm. Questions - Would 20-30% of residents replying to the survey be adequate in gaining information about the town?
  - The Commission needs feedback from the B.O.H. about HIPPA laws and the Commission's purpose for the survey.
  - Washa will call Jeanne and try to get on the B.O.H. agenda to discuss the survey in person.
- ❖ Bruce is in the process of updating the DPW grant application with updated pricing. He requires the letters of support and will present the finalization at the next meeting. This grant is over 30% of the value of the property and therefore needs to meet the ADA National 2010 codes.
- ❖ New Fire Station: meetings are currently in progress on the design phases. The Disability Commission will look at the new building. During preliminary meetings the Commission will ask the M.O.D. to look at the prints.

#### **7. Schedule next meeting/Agenda:**

- ❖ Monday, October 5, remotely at 6:30 pm.

#### **8. Adjourn:**

- ❖ The commission meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm.