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NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK
LINDA B. FRYWICK

Disability Commission Meeting November 13, 2023
6:30 PM at the Northbridge Town Hall

Members Present: Bruce Frieswick, Dan O'Brien, Jill Patnode-Krause, and Washa Liu (via zoom). Quorum was met.

1. Meeting called to order at 6:35PM. Minutes from the October 16th meeting were approved.
2. Treasurer report- \$1,000 balance remains. Bruce is still not sure about the handicapped parking fines.
3. No citizen comments
4. Senior center-no updates
5. Fire Station Updates-Jeff Duggan from the MOD, building inspector Jim Sheehan, and fire chief David White, and contractors Coughlin and Feeley surveyed the public and living areas of the fire station on Thursday, October 19th.
 - a. Still need to mark handicapped spaces. Bruce gave them the handicapped signs.
 - b. Public kitchenette-not an issue
 - c. Public men's bathroom-paper towel dispenser is too far away from the sink. This can be easily fixed.
 - d. Public women's bathroom- the toilet is far away from the wall. Waiting for resolution from the architect.
 - e. Employee locker rooms, break room, employee kitchen-no ADA compliance
 - f. All new municipal buildings must meet Title 2 of the 2010 ADA standards
 - g. It is the builder and architect's responsibilities to fix the building for no additional cost. They aren't allowed to just say "it's off limits to anyone other than firefighters".
 - h. There is a hearing scheduled (in Boston?) to see if the Town of Northbridge grants permission to Galante Architectural Studio Inc. to apply for a variance to the MA Architectural Access Board.
 - i. Bruce made a motion to accept the application for variance. This passed.
 - j. Fire chief sent a letter saying this part of the building is only for fire fighters.
6. Linwood Playground-Jeff got to check it out. Bruce made a motion to work with MOD to review the Linwood Playground
7. Mission Statement-ongoing
8. Sutton Street sidewalk- according to CMR 521, a sidewalk needs 36 inches of width. The mailbox poles are all 36 inches or wider except for one or two boxes that overhang. We may need to write a letter to these individual property owners asking if they would consider moving the box on the pole.
9. Bruce mentioned a High Intensity Activated Crosswalk Signaling Device. These go over the road because the ones on the edges of the road are harder to see. Bruce would like our commission to contact the Mass Dept of Transportation to recommend replacing the current light by Grill 122 with this type of device and also to install this type of light by the Middle School on Linwood Avenue. This was approved.
10. Next meeting is on December 11th at 6:30PM. Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.