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Northbridge Disability Commission Meeting Monday Sept. 18, 2023

Members present- Bruce Frieswick, Carla Longpre, Jill Patnode-Krause
A quorum was met.

TOWN CLERK
CARLA B. ZYWIEN

Bruce opened the meeting at 6:37 PM.

1. Bruce nominated Jill for the position of secretary. Carla seconded the motion. Motion passed.
2. Review of July 17th and August 21st minutes. The minutes were approved.
3. Treasurer report-\$1,000 currently in the account.
4. Citizen's comments- none
5. Massachusetts Office of Disability (MOD) updates. They offer a 2 day course 4 times a year: "Community Access Monitor (CAM) Training". Three meetings are coming up on November 15th. (verified by the website)
 - a. Deciding to Disclose- 9:30AM-10:30AM
 - b. Reasonable Accommodations in Employment- 11AM-12:30PM
 - c. Disability Discrimination in Employment- 2PM-3:30 PM.
6. Senior Center Update- The disability commissioner checked ADA compliance of their new kitchen. Bruce wants the MOD to examine the entire building since the kitchen renovation opens it up for reevaluation. Bruce cannot make this request because his property abuts the senior center, and it's a conflict of interest. Carla will email MOD to request a site survey.
7. New Fire Dept- Jeff Duggan from MOD was asked to check if it is ADA compliant because there will be public offices there.
8. Linwood Playground Construction- the cost of the project was more than 30% of the property value so this triggered the requirement for ADA compliance.
9. The grant cycle opened August 1st. MA received 4 million dollars from the federal government for updates to public town buildings. We missed the Sept 15th deadline for FY 2024 but we have plenty of time to decide which grant to request for FY 2025. Bruce has a report of all the town insufficiencies.
10. Mission Statement for FY 2024- needs to be submitted by January for the town book.
11. Disability Member Concerns- from Bruce. Disability commission receives any fines from people parking in a handicapped spot. These fines are set aside for people with disabilities. What should we be doing with this money?
12. Future Agenda Topics-May decide to look through a list of deficiency projects. Let Bruce know at least 48 hours in advance if you have another idea.
13. Next meeting date-Monday Oct 16 at 630 PM at the Town Hall
14. Meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM