



The mission of the Swampscott Commission On Disability is to remove barriers for full participation that provides access and inclusion for all.

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PUBLIC HEARING LOCATION	Town Hall - 1 st Floor Conference Room
PUBLIC HEARING TIME	7pm - 9pm
PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE	3 rd Thursday of the month

ROLL CALL - ● = Absent ● = Present

Trish Malphrus -Chair	Julie DeLillo – ADA Liaison	Sam Paster
Linda Lengyel – Vice Chair	Jessica Bombardier	Rupinder Sembhi
Nico Flannery-Pilcher-Secretary	Carolina Velasquez	Bonnie Weiss –Non-Voting

➤ Commission Chair called meeting to order at 7:04pm

1. Roll call
2. No public comments - Caleb..... present as Sam's Caretaker. Rupinder' s son present did not catch name
3. **Chair** introduced and welcomed M. Julie DeLillo to committee who will be serving as the town's ADA Liaison to commission. Julie is the new HR Director for the town and will serve as the town's ADA Liaison.
4. Julie shared her expertise & work history. She transitioned from her role at the Perkins School for the Blind.
5. **Chair** informed Commission that Vice Chair – Linda Lengyel will continue to remain on the Commission but on a hiatus from attending meetings until January 2019 as a work project will take priority. Chair discussed the circumstance with the Town Administrator, Sean Fitzgerald and Sue Duplin, Town Clerk both concurred that it is up to the vote of the Commission to grant Linda the time off and resume her position on the Commission effective January 2019.
 - **Chair** called for an open vote if they approved the decision of the Town's Administrator and Clerk to extend the time off to Linda and allow her to resume her role with Commission effective January 2019.
 - **Vote: unanimous vote to grant Linda time off and resume being a part of quorum in 2019.**

TRISHA MALPHRUS, CHAIR LINDA LENGYEL, VICE CHAIR NICO FLANNERY-PILCHER, SECRETARY M. JULIE DELILLO, ADA LIAISON
JESSICA BOMBARDIER SAM PASTER RUPINDER SEMBHI CAROLINA VELASQUEZ BONNIE WEISS



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6. **Chair** presented the status of new Commission member, Bonnie Weiss. Chair addressed with Town Administrator, Sean Fitzgerald, how to manage Bonnie Weiss' status on the Commission. Bonnie was a Swampscott resident for over 18 years. Currently she resides in Salem and asked join the Commission. While the Commission members are all in favor of her becoming a member of the Commission, it was determined by the Town Administrator that she can remain on the Commission as a non-voting member. The Commission approved the decision of the Town Administrator and Bonnie agreed to remain on the Commission without voting status. (Of note: Sara, a former Commission member, was granted an exception but that was a temporary exception at that time.)
7. **Chair** explained to Commission members present that all future meetings will be recorded and the recording will serve as public record. At some point in the future the meetings will be video-taped but at this point recording the meetings for all town committees and commissions are required.
8. **Chair** reminded Commission members of the two (2) remaining vacancies on the Commission and that the Commission continues to outreach to secure members who are town residents or residents who are disabled or designated caregivers for a disabled family member to join the Commission.
9. **Chair** explained that moving forward in order to stay on schedule and address all items on the agenda needing time and attention of the Commission, a paper will be distributed at meeting depicting a table and a numbered list with blanks and asking members to use this form if they have issues they want addressed at the next meeting but for the current meeting need to be tabled due to prioritization but will be added to the next month's agenda.
10. **Chair** informed the Commission members that the fiscal spending budget for the Commission is determined by the monies collected by the Town from tickets issued for "Handicapped Parking Violations". The budget is not an escrow or revolving account. Monies must be used each year but do not accrue from year to year.
11. **Chair** called on **Nico Flannery-Pilcher** to provide an update for the rail-trail. Nico is the Commission's liaison to the coalition working on this project. She did not have an update on any progress from last month's meeting.



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12. **Chair** gave a brief overview of a potentially new project that would not absorb a huge expenditure of time, effort or monies from the budget. **Carolina Valesquez** was to give a presentation on the project called “Did you Know” but was sick and will present her idea at month’s meeting. Chair presented a proposed overview. The Commission will secure space in the Swampscott Reporter weekly, and give out fliers in public gathering spots throughout the town, town hall, senior center, schools etc. providing facts regarding laws, town adherence etc. to issues that impact disabled residents, caregivers and their clients, tourists etc. Carolina called these public memes and Chair will ask her to work with Peabody’s Commission on Disability to get this rolling and see the potential in the two groups collaboration.
13. **TrishI do not know exactly what was to happen here and who Danielle is but if you fill it in I can add it to the minutes. Sam’s dad and Danielle were coming to do a presentation but did not attend the meeting. I know it had to do with beach access and the curb cut outs.**
14. Chair introduced Bonnie to speak about her idea: The idea is to partner with various committees, departments and commissions to present in the newspaper a scorecard of sorts as to how we are doing as a whole maintaining and insuring inclusion, accessibility and availability of communal and town life for all residents, guests and tourists. For example: This could mean that we would provide a total number of restaurants in the town, eating establishments that are handicapped accessible, bathroom accessible etc. we would not call out establishments that are not accessible but rather provide a fact that says Swampscott has a total of 18 eating establishments, 16 are accessible 2 are not. Out of the 18 14 bathrooms are accessible 4 are not... A commission member said this idea has promise but some years back it was proposed and the commission had much deliberation about it and ended up not pursuing it at that time. The Commission member was going to review the notes from prior years to see why the idea was ultimately voted down.



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15. **Chair** introduced **Julie Delillo** to speak about a grant application she is working on to secure funding from 250k to 50k. The grant awards are given on criteria associated with various accomplishments the town has made and various success projects associated with improving access and inclusion for those that are often excluded due to disabilities. The application is due back on Monday, October 1, 2018. The Commission members provided various projects, programs and initiatives that were completed over the past three years. Julie distributed a copy of the grant application form to the Commission member to provide input on accomplishments over the past three years ranging from the Commissions redrafting of the mission statement to roadway, beach and wheelchair access.
16. Once the application is completed the Commission will take excerpts of accomplishments from the grant application and consider compiling them for a town report to post in the reporter as a progress report of sorts.
17. **Chair and Julie, the ADA Liaison** to the Commission asked members and will reach out to others to help defined the role and develop a job description of sorts for the ADA Coordinator/Liaison for the town.
18. **Chair** called on **Nico** to explain and elaborate on a new concept called **"purple table reservations"**. This is being adopted by eating establishments in Boston and in other surrounding communities. The premise is that if patrons call an eating establishment for reservations and a member of the party has a challenge with loud noises, a hearing deficit, a sight issue affected by bright lights or member of the party who is has challenges managing loud noises, the establishment will secure a table for the party to accommodate the needs of the members of the party to insure that the dining experience is as enjoyable and comfortable as possible.
19. Chair reported that the town approved the "ReachArts" waiver to sponsor programs on the uppers floors even though there is no handicapped access. This issue was discussed at the August 2018 Commission meeting wherein the Commission unanimously voted not to approve the waiver as it was "incongruent" with the Commission's mission. The requisite documentation and paper work that the Chair was to fill out and return to the Town Administrator for the meeting vote did not get to the Commission's chair in time and was not delivered appropriately and arrived after the meeting and vote was taken. The Chair assured the Commission that she would look into the delivery protocol and make an announcement at the next Town meeting to insure that this will not happen with any Commission, department or committee in the future. in accordance with the town protocol.



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20. Trish.there was some discussion but I did not capture it on my notes about the website, turning the lights down Nico checking on something to register for something on line. This was at the end of the meeting and I apologize for not getting it down.
21. Chair called the meeting to adjourn at 9:04pm.

To add to next month's agenda and Chair's to do list:

1. Carolina – “Do You Know” - presentation
2. A copy of the grant application submitted by Julie
3. Danielle to come to the next meeting
4. Nico - Update on rails and trails.
5. Trish to speak to Carolina about the Public Memes with Peabody
6. Nico to talk about purple table reservations
7. Nico or Rupinder to go through past minutes to find out why Commission did not do a town scorecard
8. Trish - Clarification on how notices are to be given and distributed and delivered for notifications and votes

The End....