

**GREENFIELD COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ACCESS (CDA)**

Jon Zon Community Center, 35 Pleasant St.

Minutes of Thursday, March 12, 2020

\*\*\*1:00 p.m.\*\*\*

**Members present:**

Lynne Kelley, Chair  
Cynthia Dodge, Alternate Chair  
Virginia DeSorgher  
Douglas Mayo

**Members absent:**

Margo Campbell

Laura Jordan, citizen  
Bob Williford, citizen

**Also present:**

Lindsay Rowe - Acting ADA Coordinator for the City of Greenfield  
Robin Fordham - Grant Program Assistant for the Community & Economic  
Development Dept.  
Marlo Warner, Director of Department of Public Works

Ms. Kelley called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.  
The meeting was recorded by Ms. Fordham, using the voice recorder belonging to  
the CED department.

**Approval of Minutes:**

November 14, 2019 minutes – Ms. DeSorgher moved to accept the minutes. Ms.  
Kelley seconded. Minutes approved 3-0, with one abstention.  
December 5, 2019 minutes – It was determined no quorum was met for this  
meeting, so the minutes are not required.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Ms. Kelley reported that the Handicapped Parking Fund balance is \$2,825.05, and  
the General Fund balance is \$300.00, which is unchanged from December. Mr.  
Mayo motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report, and Ms. DeSorgher seconded.  
The report was approved 4-0

There was discussion on the process for Ms. Rowe being appointed to the CDA, at  
which point her attendance would count toward quorum. The Mayor's office is  
aware of the request to appoint her, as it is in queue.

## **Open Issues:**

### **Department Head attendee- Marlow Warner, Dept. of Public Works (DPW)**

#### *Sidewalks discussion*

Mr. Warner discussed DPW and sidewalks in need of repair as identified by CDA. Ms. Dodge noted that downtown brick work on sidewalks problematic for people in wheelchairs, and that the issue had been brought up previously. Ms. DeSorgher in agreement, noting seeing-eye dogs stop at the change in pavement, causing confusion. Mr. Mayo witnessed canes/walkers get caught on edges between brickwork and sidewalk by tree sections. Ms. DeSorgher mentioned the south side of Congress St. needed repair as people had fallen.

Ms. Dodge noted that Legion/Wells St. crosswalks in disrepair, has witnessed a fall there, brings possibility for suit, so far no written complaints. Also noted a person received a fracture as a result of fall on Main St. in front of Greenfield Savings bank, where the sidewalk is not wide enough. Ms. DeSorgher offered to speak with GSB president re: this issue. Ms. DeSorgher reported three sidewalk issues that she has not yet inspected (in front of Mill House, and on Chapman, lower Pierce).

Mr. Mayo asked if a railing or guide could be reinstalled on Arch Street. Mr. Warner said that the paving program also includes consideration of sidewalks, they will be paving Arch St., and intend to reinstall guide/railing, and repair section of sidewalk. Mr. Warner said \$40k is target for sidewalks right now, to be completed by the city. Will be focusing on areas identified in the MOD grant (which was rejected), to directly target ADA issues. Another \$200k will address Hope St. from Olive to Russell Hill, all concrete. May be able to extend from Russell to Washington Street. End of Hastings St. project will include new sidewalk.

Ms. Kelley said the intention was to keep communicating with the DPW about what's problematic going forward.

The list of CDA recommendations for the MOD grant was submitted for inclusion with the minutes.

#### *FRTA Elm St. bus stop discussion*

Mr. Warner said that the DPW is working with FRTA to ensure all stops are compliant with ADA. FRTA can design routes and stops, but City is liable for safety issues and ensuring stops are compliant. Ms. Jordan expressed frustration with use of Elm Terrace stop, that it is hazardous, and has been frustrated with FRTA response. Mr. Warner said FRTA has reached out to the City to review stops, but that issue was deferred due to the Mayoral transition, and that review

currently is underway with the new Mayor. Ms. Jordan circulated a FRTA flyer announcing several “community conversations” open to the public. Ms. DeSorgher noted that FRTA can change routes, but must not make stops inaccessible. She has written to them regarding shifting the Elm St. stop to the existing but out-of-service accessible stop within development. Mr. Warner reported that the Chief of Police is also involved, as bus pullovers in current configuration of some stops could be illegal from a traffic standpoint.

There was a brief discussion regarding a House Bill (supplied to Ms. Kelley by Mr. Williford) regarding a 5% requirement for on-street handicapped parking spaces “regulated” by the City. Ms. Rowe said currently the City is at 2%, but that it’s unclear how much of City’s parking this bill covers. Where additional required spaces should be located is also not clear.

### **Status of invitation to additional department heads**

Ms. Kelly suggested inviting the Health Inspector to the next meeting of the CDA. Ms. Rowe said she had put out invite to Building Inspector Mark Snow, who is looking to attend in April or May. She will invite Health Inspector Valerie Bird as well, with no more than one dept. Head per meeting.

### **FCBA Franklin County Bar Association update**

CDA Sponsored “Service Dogs & the Law” event is set for Saturday, March 28th at 2:00 p.m. at the downtown Greenfield Community College Campus. It was determined that refreshments could not be purchased with CDA funds.

Ms. Kelley requested that the event flyer be posted on several websites. Jennifer Lively of the FCBA will be contacting the Recorder, and checking with radio station in case of cancellation.

Ms. Kelley asked about City contact for ASL interpreters if requested. Ms. Rowe said City requires request for accommodation be made two weeks prior to event. Flyer says contact Ms. Kelley for special accommodations, will edit to add “two weeks prior.”

### **Update on Garden Cinema**

Ms. Rowe said the Cinema had received a waiver from the Architectural Access Board to extend lift installation project to end of March. Currently the internal work has not yet begun but should be completed quickly once it has started. Ms. DeSorgher asked if the project was expected to meet the new timeline. Ms. Rowe said she was seeking a progress update from Mr. Gohl. Ms. Kelley asked if she

could speak with lift vendor to schedule a “dry run.” Ms. Rowe will follow up with vendor to check on possibility for a “dry run.”

### **Remote access status**

Ms. Rowe is working on ordering equipment. The equipment can be purchased with handicapped parking funds; Ms. Rowe is determining who will cover monthly fee. Regarding rules for remote attendance of meetings, Ms. DeSorgher said the city was working on a plan in relation to Coronavirus and we should wait to hear status.

### **Building accessibility/CDA inclusion in planning stage for projects**

Ms. Kelley confirmed that the CDA is now on the list for project review. Ms. Dodge expressed concern that an architect needs to explain blueprints in order for committee to review. Ms. DeSorgher said the commission was permitted to look at plans, and note questions/issues. Currently Planning Director Eric Twarog is sending plans to Ms. DeSorgher, and Ms. DeSorgher is forwarding to Margo. Ms. Kelly said she spoke with Andrew Bristol, Access Specialist at Stavros Center for Independent Living, and he said he was happy to review if the CDA has questions, and he can share what other towns do.

### **CAM training Update and planning**

Ms. Kelley said plans are set for the CDA/Greenfield to host a Community Access Monitor training, at the GCC downtown campus; there are many details to settle, but the event will take place on September 23rd and 24th, with free parking available. Ms. Rowe noted that City cannot collect or spend funds for this event, so the best route is partnering with non-profit to co-sponsor. Ms. Kelley spoke with Mr. Bristol at Stavros, who said their organization has done this many times, and is willing to co-sponsor and can collect money, handle registration, whatever is needed. Ms. Kelley said there would be a host agreement between Greenfield and Stravros, more details to come. Ms. DeSorgher assured the CDA that all accessibility rules are being met for this event.

### **New Business**

Ms. DeSorgher asked that Mr. Mayo view the status of the parking lot at 60 Wells and report back with an update.

There was discussion of the Legion parking lot behind Green Fields market, concerned that handicapped parking spaces are not removed as a result of ongoing project. Ms. Rowe said that the DPW has a full plan for its portion of the the area (the lot has five different property owners).

### **Announcements**

Ms. DeSorgher asked that the Commission be prepared that things may change in relation to Coronavirus situation.

### **Next meeting**

1:00 p.m. on April 9, 2020, at the John Zon Community Center, 35 Pleasant Street

### **Adjournment**

Ms. DeSorgher moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Mr. Mayo seconded the motion. The vote to adjourn was 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 2:31 p.m.