



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## Minutes 07/18/2007

### MEETING MINUTES JULY 18, 2007

Members Present: Lin Baker, Barbara Cutler, Susan James, Kevin O'Brien, and Maureen St. Hilaire

Members Absent: Barbara Jones, Kerrie Fallon

Others Present: Paolo Marinelli, Disability Advocate  
Janice Dallas, Disability Advocate  
Heidi Hample, Disability Advocate  
Ellen Frith MDiv, Disability Advocate

#### **Meeting Minutes of May 16, 2007:**

Barbara Cutler made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of May 16, 2007 seconded by Susan James. SO VOTED

#### **Meeting Minutes of June 20, 2007:**

The Meeting Minutes of June 20, 2007 were tabled until the August 2007 Meeting.

#### **Town Day 2007:**

The Commission decided to request booth space for Town Day, which will be held on September 8, 2007 with a rain date of September 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Audible Pedestrian Signals:**

Kevin said that the volume of the audible pedestrian signal at Park Ave. Ext. and Summer St. has been reduced from 30% of capacity to 15% of capacity.

#### **Other Business:**

Janice Dallas said she e-mailed John Bean, Director of Public Works, about replacement of bricks on the ramp in front of the Town Hall. Janice said that John has responded to her e-mail.

Heidi Hample said that she was interested in developing a plan to address disability issues within the Town. Heidi said that the Commission has recently been mainly involved in dealing with mobility issues such as curb ramp work. Maureen St. Hilaire said that in her opinion the Town should develop the plan.

Susan James said that a letter should be sent from the Commission to all Town Departments and Commissions informing them of the

Commissions presence and role in the Town to advice and educate.

Paolo Marinelli said that a Liaison from the Transportation Advisory Committee should attend Disability Commission Meeting's. Paolo said that a letter should be sent to Kevin O'Brien and John Bean in appreciation for their efforts in having a ramp installed at Thorndike and Varnum Street to improve access to Thorndike Field. Paolo said that the Selectmen were planning to hold a meeting after the summer to determine if abutters of the Marquis Minuteman Trail were agreeable to having snow plowed on the trail. Kevin O'Brien said that he thought the meeting would be held during September.

Maureen St. Hilaire questioned why the Boy's & Girl's Club does not have an elevator. Kevin O'Brien said that he would call Dan Brosnan, Executive Director of the Club, to discuss this concern.

Ellen Frith expressed concern about an issue that she had experienced with the lack of accessible access to the Calvary Methodist Church and the situation that followed. Ellen also expressed concern regarding the lack of signage for accessible parking at the Senior Center Building and also the problem with snow removal from curb cut ramps within the Town

Barbara Cutler said that Town Job Postings should include that people with disabilities are encouraged to apply in addition to other protected groups.

**Curb Ramp Work:**

Kevin O'Brien said that Jack Jones has submitted a survey of curb ramp work to John Bean. This survey lists the curb cut ramps that should be given priority along Warren St. and Broadway.

**Community Access Monitor Training:**

Kevin said that the training would be held on September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Kevin said that it would be appropriate to have someone from the Commission preferably Kerrie Fallon as the Chair welcome the participants at the training.

**Community Development Update:**

Kevin O'Brien said that the Town has not been able to begin the planning process for the Massachusetts Avenue Road and Sidewalk project until further information is provided to Mass. Highway. Kevin said that it is unlikely that a groundbreaking will occur before October 2008.

Kevin said that the developer of the former Lahey Clinic site would probably begin demolition of the site this fall with construction to begin next spring.

Kevin said that at Monotony Rock's Park accessible paths are now being constructed in addition to other improvements at the Park.

**Legislative Update:**

Barbara Cutler said that a conference on Emergency Preparedness was recently held at the Senior Center Building.

Barbara Cutler said that even under a guardianship people still has the right to vote. In addition Barbara said that Charlie Carr has been appointed the new Mass. Rehab. Commissioner. Barbara also said that the legislators would soon be reviewing a new aversive bill.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 P.M.