

Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2013

Members in Attendance: Molly Flueckiger, Heidi Hample, Rachel Buonopane, Michael Rademacher, John Thompson, Janice Dallas
Members Absent: Susan James, Maureen St. Hilaire, Kerrie Fallon
Others Present: Jack Jones, ADA Coordinator, Charlie Maher (town resident),
Laura Weiner (Senior Planning and Housing Director)

Meeting began at 4:05 pm

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Meeting Minutes from October 16 to be reviewed at next meeting, Adjustments as noted at October meeting for September to be made
3. Handicapped Parking Issues (guest Laura Wiener)
 - A. Parking in the Heights
 - There are reported concerns regarding the handicap parking spaces in the Heights business district, specifically in area of Mass Ave and Park Ave intersection
 - Bus route improvements made bus stops larger, affecting all parking in the area
 - A handicap spot was taken for bus stop enlargement on Mass Ave heading towards Cambridge before Park Ave
 - There has been a request for a new handicap spot on Mass Ave heading towards Lexington before Park Ave
 - Discussion of developing a policy (or bylaw) in town regarding on street handicap parking, throughout town, or just in business districts
 - B. Parking study in Arlington Center
 - Ongoing parking study for the Arlington Center area including Broadway Plaza
 - On 1/9/14 a public meeting with the consultant will take place regarding the plan
 - Discussion today of possibly moving the handicap parking spot on Alton St to within the Broadway Plaza lot
 - C. Letters have been sent to Selectmen regarding handicap parking requests at the Senior Center, Broadway Plaza and 22 Mill St.
 - D. Parking Violations
 - Misuse of parking placards are reported to the RMV (person using a placard belonging to someone else), \$500.00 fine
 - The Arlington police/traffic control do not currently have a box on their tickets regarding this violation per report
 - Traffic control or Police officers can issue tickets for cars without placards parked within handicap parking spaces, fine of \$200.00
 - Discussion of follow up regarding portion of \$\$ for violations in handicap parking spaced to be allotted to the commission to use for programs/assistance for people in town with disabilities
 - *Action Items-Laura and Jack to look at parking in the heights to better assess*
 - *Will reach out to Ted Fields to discuss feeling of store owners/renters in the business district regarding parking*

- *Attend 1/9/14 meeting about the Arlington Center Parking stud/Broadway Plaza*
- *Speak with police department regarding parking violations and working with the commission going forward*

4. ADA Coordinators Report

- 10/1/13 Jack attended meeting with ADA coordinators from other towns
- 10/22/13 Jack and Mike attended monthly low vision group (sponsored by the Town), noted that individuals with low vision may be eligible for no car excise tax, may also have reduced property tax/deduction, Jack and Mike updated the group of the curb cut project and Mass Ave corridor project
- 11/14/13 Jack, Mike Byrne, Ted Fields toured some East Arlington store fronts (167-173 Mass Ave). The owner of Olympia pizza and several store fronts on that block is looking to perform some repairs, asking for assistance from the town to renovate. Jack noted that all the store fronts do have a slope up to the door and the doors are wide enough for wheelchair egress.
- 11/19/13 resident called to inquire about services offered to people with disabilities by the town

5. Administrative Business

- Meeting agendas- Molly will send out reminders to Commission Members to provide ideas and feedback for items to be added to the agenda
- Meeting information package- Jack will send out info that is pertinent to upcoming meetings prior to meeting as able for commission members to review, these items will also be printed and available at the meeting
- Meeting time questionnaire- survey passed out to members regarding time and day preference for meetings
- Budget process- members present approved purchase of white board/flip chart to be used at meetings
- November action items- will follow up
- Update on request for ADA self-evaluation and transition plan
 - Transition plan-deputy town manager supportive of idea and would like to follow up with the commission on the process
 - Discussion of invites to next meeting- submission of a capital request, we need to come up with a gross dollar amount
 - Commission needs to decide what we want in the plan so that we can get a more accurate dollar estimate for the project
 - Will look at other capital budget requests from other committees in town, to prepare for our request

6. Arlington's master plan

- This plan is for the physical development of the town
- Areas within the scope: housing, economic development, transportation (sidewalks), public facilities, natural resources, land use
- This will be a multi-year project, large public meetings will be held
- Time for feedback of plan being currently developed is 12/4/13

- Jack has developed list of suggestions and present to commission members at today's meeting, members present voted and agreed to support suggestions to be handed in for feedback to planning committee. Suggestions in all areas mentioned above as they pertain to town members with disabilities
- Discussion of universal design- zero level entrance to new homes developed in town

Meeting adjourned 6:15pm
Next Meeting set December 18, 2013