

February 19th, 2020, Fitchburg Disability Commission Monthly Meeting
Located at the Garden Room, Fitchburg Public Library @2:00pm.
Commission Members:

Bill Tolos	Chair	Present
Sharon Tardiff		Present
Doris Matte		Present
Carolyn Quirk		Present
Deanna Tardiff		Present
Mary Ann Guichard	Absent	
Nick Carbone		Present

Nick Bosonetto, Commissioner of Public Works and A.J. Tourigny, from the Mayor's Office both attended the Fitchburg Disability Commission Meeting.

Item 1: Reading of the Minutes Meeting commenced at 2:00pm.
Minutes from the January meeting were voted on and accepted with updated to be added.

Item 2: Announcements/Notices/Events

Item 3: Open Forum: A.J. spoke about modifications being made to the new City Hall. Provided an estimated timeline of events.
Nick Bosonetto, spoke about the conditions of the sidewalks and what he could do to make them more accessible, asked the Disability Commission to come up with a listing of the sidewalks that are in need of repair.

Item 4: Finance and Budget: Sharon provided an update on Funds.

Item 5: Report on Meeting with Doug Bushman, Fitchburg Housing Authority: Bill/Carolyn attended the meeting. Mr. Bushman from the Housing Authority was awarded a Grant for Wallace Towers, the Grant will provide for many improvements at Wallace Towers for accessible spaces/apartments. Provided updates and timeline for the work to be done. The Housing Authority is putting together a board to oversee the construction. Also spoke with Mr. Bushman about using space at Wallace Towers and Day St., to conduct Accessible Art Studio painting classes, which he said yes.

Item 6: Accessible Art Painting Class: The next class will be held on Monday, March 16, 2020, at the ARC of Opportunity. In April the Accessible Art Studio Class will be hosting a watercolor painting class at Wallace Towers more information to follow. Also talked about joining the Fitchburg Cultural Alliance to see if the Commission would be able to get space on Main Street to conduct the Accessible Art Studio Painting Classes and have gallery space to showcase the work. Sharon will contact and provide update.

Item 7: New/Old Business:

- Ramp for Wallace Towers: The ramp would be used by the residents at Wallace Towers to access the patio so they can enjoy some outdoor space. Tabled for now.
- Curb cuts - library sidewalk cut too steep – Meeting with DPW, submitting grant for \$35,000. To move/repair curb cuts. This project will now be included in the Main Street Project.
- John Fitch Highway Urgent Care - accessibility complaints. Building Inspector Mark Barbadoro is dealing with the accessibility issues/process.
- Sidewalk in front of Salvation Army on Water Street – Orange markings have been placed - ground frozen
- Leominster Emergency Housing Building Visit – tabled until Spring.
- International Wheel Chair Day – Nick looking into hosting an event.
- Host FATV Show – Tabled for now researching more information.
- Variance for BION Restaurant on Main St., waiting for more information concerning the submission to the Architectural Board, tabled for now.

Item 8: Shoveling Snow for the Disabled and Elderly: DPW will be policing the Main Street sidewalks and curb cuts for clearing snow. Mr. Bosonetto, DPW, will be putting together a Board that oversees accessibility in the City of Fitchburg, and what can be done to improve it.

Item 9: Civic Days: The Disability Commission voted not to have a table at the Fitchburg Block Party, instead to host a table at Trick or Treat on Main Street this coming Halloween in October 2020.

Item 10: Motion to adjourn, meeting at 3:30pm. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 11th, 2020, at the Garden Room, Fitchburg Public Library, at 2:00pm.