



Meeting Date: 4/25/2019 2:30 pm
Location: 10th Floor Conference Room, Stamford Govt Center

In Attendance: FJ Mercede, K. Murray, D. DiBlasio, P. Magalnick, M. Levine, M. Brown, E. Bromley, E. Grebeck, Bob Lion, Maggie Murray, F. Lane, H. Kazmierczak

MINUTES

Meeting started at 2:33 and FJ Mercede welcomed the group
Phil motioned to accept minutes from Feb meeting, accepted.

1. STATUS OF CITY ACCESSIBILITY UPGRADES (K. Murray)

- Fast tracking first ADA bathroom in Government Center. Looking at 5/1 start on first floor. Drawings done. Will have bid waiver in May. Hoping to complete by 6/30, then will do 10th fl, then 2, 4, and 8th floors. Originally this was to be done by 4/30. The first floor accessible bathroom is on fast track because Phil previously sent Ellen an email after he spoke with the director of disability rights of Connecticut and discovered that it is illegal for them to hold any meeting in a public building without an accessible bathroom.
- Parks – 4/1 ordered 2 accessible tables for Cove Beach, 2 for Cummings Point and 2 for West Beach.
- 95% done with Terry Connors ice rink.
- Making bath stalls accessible at West Beach and Cove Island bathrooms after West Bch.
- Belltown FD needs to be made accessible because they rent it out to the public.
- Met with Trout Unlimited to use red barn at Mianus River Park. They are opening an accessible trail and fishing platform. City needs to send out press release about this.

2. OUTDOOR DINING (E Bromley)

- Ellen made recommendations but there's no enforcement due to government structure. Citation officer needs to enforce.
- Bob Lion suggested inviting Mark McGrath and Frank Fedeli to our meeting and will involve Ted Jankowski. Group decided to meet with Mark McGrath first, and FJ, Phil and Honorata will work on an agenda for the meeting.
- Although not specifically mentioned in the outdoor dining ordinance, it is mandated that each establishment abide by local, state, and federal laws. The ADA is part of this mandate, just like the local health department and zoning and building rules. There is no inclusion of ADA language on permit application. Public safety should take up. Eric Morson dialed in and Ellen asked for someone on his board to do away with outdoor dining,
- Laura Burwick should facilitate a meeting about the outdoor dining ordinance and she responded with an email from the law department, Mike Toma, that these establishments are in violation of the building code, as more tables/patrons require more restrooms. Likewise the health department would require a larger sized kitchen to accommodate the larger amount of food and to handle it safely.

3. BEACH STICKER ISSUES

- Per Ellen a process is in place now to issue beach stickers to disabled who cannot drive, however the process is not working and the people in the town clerk's office are not complying. Will go to Mark McGrath to enforce.
- Maggie horrified that people in Gov't Center do not do their jobs even after being told by management what to change. Thinks people need to be fired. Per Marty, it is hard to change the culture.

4. KUDOS

- Gratitude to Eric Morson and Bob Lion for updating the TV station so it is useable for the blind.

5. REPORT ON FAIRFIELD COUNTY SUMMIT MEETING

- Phil, Honorata, Ellen and Marty went to 10-town meeting on ADA compliance in Westport. We are making progress.

6. INVITATION TO Ndid Moses, Assistant U.S. Attorney for District of CT (P. Magalnick)

- Greenwich invited Ndid Moses to speak at their ADA committee meeting. Phil would like to invite her or Gretchen Knauff, Director of Disability of CT, to one of our meetings.

7. TRANSITION PLAN/CONTINUATION OF SELF ASSESSMENT (M Levine)

- 2016 plan is for all city buildings and parks, no schools, no sidewalks, no streets.
- The former Superintendent of Schools had asked to postpone our meeting to discuss the needed self assessment for all school properties with him until he got through the mold issues. We need to try for a meeting with the new Superintendent, as we have no control.
- Per FJ, we need to do a streets and sidewalks plan and suggested to Marty to get a proposal from IHCD so that we can budget.
- Marty said we should talk with Jim Travers to decide what to focus on. We have money in the budget to bring someone in to discuss. Marty will contact to set meeting.

8. BOARD OF EDUCATION-SELF ASSESSMENT (E Bromley)

- Not fully done but they think they are fully compliant. Per Ellen, start with Rogers School and the High School.

9. SCOPE, MEANING and FUTURE of A4A COMMITTEE (P Magalnick)

- We have no authority. Not making enough progress. What will it take? Do we keep going, or give up? Phil is disheartened that we can't get little things done, let alone big.
- Per Bob, change is slow and incremental and we should keep trying,
- Per Honorata we should invite the Mayor and all department heads to come to our meeting and let us know what they're doing re ADA compliance. We set the agenda, we can invite.

- Per Marty, we will invite people as we see issues that arise. FJ and Honorata put that list together.

. Meeting adjourned 4:15pm