



Meeting Date: 9/25/2019 12:30 pm
Location: 10th Floor Conference Room, Stamford Govt Center

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

MINUTES

Meeting started at 12:35 and FJ Mercede welcomed the group
Phil motioned to accept minutes from June meeting, accepted.

1. OUTDOOR DINING (E Bromley)

- Frank Fedeli reported that 2 fines collected, \$300 Piezano, \$400 Capriccio
- Same conversation as always. The only way to change this is to “ungive” privilege of outdoor dining
- Marty did a walk with Mike Moore over the summer. Mike has a better understanding of accessibility issues.
- Phil got an email from Frank Fideli. Still no follow-up on Scoops illegal café blocking sidewalk and Sunny & Frankies. 5 months, no action. Capriccio’s barriers are in the way, Phil and Honorata walked into. The fine amounts make no sense. Every year the number of citations are reset to zero, but we don’t know where the list of permits are. What do we do? Wasting time.
- Ellen – we don’t supervise Frank Fedeli. He needs to come to our meetings.

2. BEACH STICKER ISSUES – Ellen

No updates yet. The State is doing Rt.1 sidewalk curb cuts in Stamford

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

- Productive year. Terry Connors is complete. Total capital project \$450,000 authorized, \$295,000 available for use. West Beach baths are complete, ordered ADA compatible benches for Cummings and West Beach, Cove Island Beach. Are on site and getting more in 2020. Gov't Ctr first floor demo for ADA bath on Oct.1, expected completion 30 days from receiving all materials, although the Mayor said it would be Oct.31. Cost of each \$37,500. Second bath on first floor next. Would eat up much of the budget. Wants to do 4th floor bath too. Ellen doesn't think it is a high priority. Nor does Marty. Next project is Cove Island red building, close to entrance, playground. Verbal estimated costs \$25-\$30,000 total to make into ADA compliant bathroom. Will look at best way to dispense paper/heat for hand dryers.
- Michelle mentioned the bathrooms at Dorothy Heroy Park. There's a city camp and the bathrooms are not compliant. Ellen said we will consider an accessible port-a-potty.
- Kevin has enough in the budget for the projects, wants to be proactive, but if not reallocated by Oct.16, it will not reprioritize for 2021. Requesting \$250,000. Gov't Ctr is old, has never upgraded bathrooms, so hoping to freshen up all of them using other money.
- Honorata noted that people don't know there's a chair to get handicapped children into the water at the beach. Kevin said he'd like to get a chair for each beach. Will look into getting signage to promote the chair on-site. Cummings is the only beach to get a mat and we need to make the bath compliant. Per Marty – mat used by more women with baby carriages than wheelchairs so not needed at every beach. Since mat is at Cummings, bath needs to be compliant. Make it a priority.
- Security in Gov't Ctr should know how to operate hearing assist equipment.
- Phil - The Kiwanis Club wants to raise money to donate 2 wheelchair swings in Stamford. Thinking to do at Scalzi Park since has accessible bathroom. FJ suggested Twin Meadow.

- Kevin is responsible for the maintenance at the City's 18 parks/playgrounds. BOE site/facility 3 managers are responsible for school parks.

3. SELF ASSESSMENT

- FJ – when will we do Part B? Slides into BOE assessment. Should we need to talk to Michael Handler?
- Marty – current superintendent “gets it” but the budget is overwhelmed with mold issue. West Hill might not be able to be reopened. Not sure the BOE has the bandwidth to put more on their plate. IHDC suggested 3 – one for all-city, huge job, or one for downtown, and/or one for traffic signals. We need to prioritize and do in small bites. Our traffic/crossing signal system is outdated. We need to decide what to do
- Ellen – we need Jim Travers' input. Could be done in-house. Talked about adding an Oct meeting, the 30th @ 12:30. (Was canceled a week later)

4. MISC

- FJ - We want to meet with Jim Travers re Oaklawn Ave. Every curb cut is wrong. Every new one is on an angle that puts people in the wrong place, not consistent w/direction of travel. Honorata – minimum compliance, not best practice. Marty – supposedly is ok but not best practice. Phil – let DOJ sort it out.
- Ellen walked Oaklawn last week and pointed it out. Ellen will try to get a meeting set.
- Trolley stops still need to be changed. Doesn't see why DOT would object to changing locations unless created another problem. Can we make the existing ones accessible? 13 total. Most stops are downtown.
- Ellen - New police station community room is compliant and FJ will stop to see how many people it will accommodate for future large meetings.
- Ellen – ordered new stanchions in the Govt Ctr lobby so the rope is better for canes. Asked Honorata to give opinion after this meeting. Will exchange to get what we need. Tax office will be next.

- Need some PR for the accessibility features we have. Trying to get city PR person involved.
- Phil - Enforcement – none on Hope St. since April. Ellen - Problem is the City can't mandate that a business break code to use a portable ramp to get in their door, since it's a liability. You can bring your own ramp. Phil hates to give up on Scoop. Honorata wants to see written code, Ellen will send.
- Honorata – do restaurants have to have a public restroom on site? Village Table in Springdale says go next door. Should restroom be accessible? New Trackside restaurant doesn't have an accessible bathroom.
- Phil - Blindness Awareness Month is October. Would like some PR from the City to wave the flag.
- Phil - Meeting with the Mayor, Ellen, FJ, Phil, Honorata was discouraging. Ellen said he is so supportive. He's a good government man and "he's a lousy politician". He will follow-up and is honest. Honorata said we need him to show that. Ellen said she would get him to show up at a meeting. FJ thankful that he didn't make excuses about A4A as he did in the past.
- Phil said the City Facebook page wasn't accessible, but Taylor added features to make it so, and the BOE Channel 78 isn't. Met with Michael Meyer to discuss. Ellen will put Sharon Beadle in touch with Phil.

Meeting adjourned 2:10