



**CITY OF WALTHAM**

**WALTHAM DISABILITY SERVICES**

**COMMISSION**

**119 School Street**

**Waltham Massachusetts 02451**

Minutes of Regular Meeting

JULY 3, 2020

The Members of the Disabilities Services Commission met in Regular Sessio**n** on July 3, 2020 remotely. The Chairperson called the meeting to order remotely at 8:30

The Chairperson called the roll call and the following members responded as present remotely.

Present:

Mark A. Johnson

Joanne Stone

Robert Marcou

Pamela Jones

Adam Maher

Jane Demers

JT Graceffa

**MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 5, 2020 were reviewed.

Upon a motion Bob Marcou and second by Adam Maher it was,

**VOTED:** The minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 5, 2020

were accepted as presented.

Poll of the vote was unanimous and the Chairperson declared the motion

**POLICE DETAILS**

No discussion was held on police details

**DSC WEBSITE**

JT Graceffa informed DSC Members the MBTA buses traveling on Moody St have been temporarily rerouted. The new bus stop locations are now located on the DSC website to assist everyone with questions on the temporary bus stops, the routes were closed by the City to assist restaurants on Moody St. impacted by the pandemic.

**FINANCES**

No financial matters were discussed at this time.

**UPCOMING PROJECTS**

No discussion was held on upcoming projects.

**WALTHAM SPECIAL EDUCATION**

The Commission reached out to the Waltham Special Ed. Department to review their remaining balance of $2060.00 in their account from previously funding awards from the DSC. Dr. Nadene Stein responded that since school was not in session a complete inventory of items needed for special education students could not be given at this time. She did, however say there was an immediate need of a pediatric walker and a physio roll for students. The physio roll is used to strengthen student’s muscles.

The award of funds by the DSC to the Special Ed Department will insure there is an inventory of these items that will be maintained by the Department for students in their programs now and in the future.

**SIGNAGE FOR MOODY ST BUS REROUTING**

On Sunday, June 21, 2020 Commission Members, along with Mayor McCarthy were contacted by a concerned citizen when he witnessed a disabled individual in a wheelchair unsuccessfully attempting to locate the rerouted stop for the bus he would normally take. Bus stops had to be rerouted due to the closing of Moody Street to vehicle traffic. The Detail Police Officer, along with the reporting citizen, attempted to assist the individual in locating the new bus stop but were unable to do so because of the lack of signage instructing people to the rerouted bus stops. The City resident also stated he could not locate an email address on the DSC Website to contact the Chairperson to report this situation.

JT Graceffa responded to the concern of the email address that day, instructing all to click on the Chairperson’s name and a message space, with his email, would appear so you may send your concern/question to Mr. Johnson directly.

On June 22, 2020 Mark Johnson contacted the City Engineer regarding lack of signage for new bus stops and was informed the MBTA is responsible to post signage for all bus and train routes and stops. Mr. Johnson then contacted the Director of Disability Access for the T to report the problem and stress the importance of resolving the oversight as soon as it was possible.

The Director agreed and stated signs would be installed as soon as a crew could be dispatched to install necessary signage. Signs were installed along routes to direct person to new rerouted bus stops by the next day.

At the DSC Meeting of July 3, 2020, Pamela Jones requested it be noted that JT Graceffa, Mark Johnson and City Engineer, Mike Garvin, along with the Director of Disability Access for the T and other T Personnel, be commended for their swift action and teamwork to resolve the oversight of signage instruction individuals to the new bus stops.

**SCHEDULING OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

There being no apparent scheduling conflict with the date for the next Regular Meeting for August 7, 2020. This Regular Meeting will be held remotely as will upcoming meetings until further notice.

There being no further business rightly before the Board, upon a motion by Adam Maher and second by Joann Stone , it was unanimously voted to adjourn.

The Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at: 8:50 a.m.

Documents reviewed at the meeting of July 3, 2020:

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 5, 2020