



CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Commission On Disability

Meeting Date: January 11, 2021

MINUTES

Room Zoom

Time: 6:00PM * New Start Time

Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

Barney Heath,
**Director, Planning &
Development**

Amanda Berman
**Director, Housing &
Community Development**

Tiffany Leung
**Planner
Community Development**

Members

Lakshmi Kadambi, Co-Chair
Anne Marie Killilea, Co-Chair
Jane Brown, Treasurer
Warren Abramson
Rob Caruso
Lucie Chansky
Rosemary Larking
Sandra Lingley
Barbara Lischinsky
Girard Plante
Eileen Sandberg
Matt Volpi

Jason Rosenberg
Chairman Emeritus

Advisor

Sergeant Dan Devine
Newton Police Department

Staff

Jini Fairley
ADA/Sec 504 Coordinator
617-796-1253

1000 Commonwealth Ave.
Newton, MA 02459
T 617-796-1240
F 617-796-1254

This meeting will be a virtual meeting on Zoom, by phone or by computer/iPad:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84610100556?pwd=L2FuS2Rsemt1UDIeGIHOEpndnJ6QT09>

Meeting ID: 846 1010 0556

Passcode: 279296

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,84610100556# US (Washington D.C)

+13126266799,,84610100556# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 846 1010 0556

Passcode: 279296

Commission Members Present:

Lakshmi Kadambi, Co-chair, remotely on Zoom
Anne Marie Killilea, Co-chair, remotely on Zoom
Jane Brown, Treasurer, remotely on Zoom
Rob Caruso, remotely on Zoom
Warren Abramson, remotely on Zoom
Lucie Chansky, remotely on Zoom
Sandra Lingley, remotely on Zoom
Barbara Lischinsky, remotely on Zoom
Girard Plante, remotely on Zoom
Eileen Sandberg, remotely on Zoom
Matt Volpi, remotely on Zoom

Commission Members Absent:

Rosemary Larking

City Staff and Advisors Present:

Jini Fairley, ADA/Section 504 Coordinator
Tiffany Leung, Planning
Shaylyn Davis, Planning
Sgt. Dan Devine, Police
Shelby Booth, The Carroll Center
Jason Sobol, DPW
Isaac Prizant



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Nicole Freedman, Planning
Luis Perez
Alfredo Vargas

Guests:

MassDOT & HSH representatives
Councilor Bowman
Sally Greenhouse

1. Introductions (6:00-6:10)

Lakshmi asked for a moment of silence to remember Michael Conlon, Newton resident, reported to have Mental Illness, who was killed by Newton Police on January 5. There was interest in forming a Mental Health Subcommittee to explore other ways to remember Michael and others with Mental Illness and to bring education and awareness of Mental Health to the Newton community. Eileen, Warren, , Anne Marie, and Barbara joined Lakshmi's members of this subcommittee.
At this time Lucie, Jane, and Rosemary had not yet arrived.

2. Approval of 12/14/20 Meeting Minutes (6:10-6:15)

There were no changes requested to the Minutes of the December 14, 2020 meeting. by members. Eileen made a motion to accept the minutes as read and distributed. Rob seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 9-0.

3. MassDOT Plans for Auburn (West) & Comm Ave (6:15-6:35)

Nicole Freedman, Director of Transportation Planning described this project, to be reconstructed by MassDOT along with their bridge project at Rte. 30 over the Charles River. This was a preview of the design plans so far, to get input from the COD members, and will be the subject of a public hearing for all Newton residents on Thursday, January 14. Nicole mentioned that the city has a project along the Carriage Way on Comm Ave from Lyons Park to this intersection, so the city is very interested in the design of this intersection, to make it safer and consistent with the city's project. She and Jason Sobol described the existing conditions at Auburn (West) and Comm Ave, including that the westbound traffic on Comm Ave does not have to stop at this intersection and there is no crosswalk or pedestrian signal to cross these 6 lanes safely. MassDOT came up with 4 options but the preferred one, described more fully, is the modern (much smaller than older ones) round-a-bout option where there would be Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons (PHB, formerly HAWK where there is a red light and vehicles must stop) signals to cross Comm Ave, 2 lanes at a time with a signal in the median, possibly an offset crossing , deemed the safest option for pedestrians, bikes. Presently, traffic entering the intersection from Auburn St. have a signal but there was discussion as to the best way to either signalize or provide a raised crosswalk for pedestrians crossing Auburn St here. All signals would be equipped with APS, and all curb ramps will be ADA-compliant and have detectable warning panels. Here are most of the questions/concerns/comments and Answers in parentheses: will there be a backup

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of vehicles when a pedestrian has pushed the signal to cross, with this design (no, the distance needed for queuing has been taken into account), is it necessary for both sides of the intersection crossing Comm Ave/Rte. 30 needed (yes, for the small neighborhood to the west of this intersection to cross over to the shared use path that the city is planning), concern for the position of the crosswalk so close to the gas station driveway (good point, there will be stop bars for the crosswalk and a possible raised crosswalk at Auburn to make pedestrians more visible), will all curb ramps be ADA compliant (yes, they don't anticipate any variances here), will there sidewalks where none exist today on both sides of Comm Ave, especially where the carriage way ends, up to the Charles River Boat House (yes, new sidewalks are planned by both the MassDOT project and the city's Comm Ave Greenway projects), have pedestrian counts been done to determine how many pedestrians actually now cross Comm Ave at this intersection (the city has received many requests for a safe crossing across Comm Ave here, and there are several other projects/plans in the works making connections to this area and beyond in the near future), will there be new sidewalks on Auburn St.as you approach Comm Ave(yes, but only enough to provide the connection to the Comm Ave sidewalk and crosswalks), and concern to provide more than a RRFB for pedestrians crossing Auburn St. at this intersection, as not all vehicles will see the flashing yellow lights and they won't be required to stop, at the minimum there should be a PHB for this busy and wide crossing (MassDOT said that they are strongly considering installing a PHB (red light, must stop) for this crossing), and finally asking MassDOT to consider making a safe crossing up at the Marriott across to the apartment building on the south side of Comm Ave, as there is quite a lot of vehicular and pedestrian traffic crossing there right now.

4. Accessible Fines Reports (6:35-6:40)

Sgt. Devine gave the Accessible Fines reports, which can be viewed on pages 7 and 8. Due to the pandemic, very few tickets are being issued for violations of the accessible parking laws.

5. CDBG Access Projects Report (6:40-6:45)

Shaylyn gave the CDBG Access Projects report. It can be found on page 9. Barbara asked for details about the Phase I of the Marty Sender Path, and both Shaylyn and Luis Perez described the approximately 1000 feet from the field house at the Cove up to a service road. Phase II would continue from the service road up to Comm Ave. This path is along the Charles River and several outlooks with benches will also be accessible.

6. FY22 CDBG Funded Project Vote (6:45-7:10)

Tiffany presented, along with Parks, Rec, & Culture Department and DPW, 2 projects for FY22 funding, which are some of the projects recommended by the COD. Luis Perez, Open Space Coordinator, gave his presentation of a proposed .62 mile loop path around the fields at McGrath Park (Warren House), which has not changed since he and Tiffany presented it to the COD earlier in the fall. His presentation can be viewed on page 10. This loop would also have 4 benches along the path. This proposal will also need to go before the Parks & Recreation Commission for approval.

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Alfredo Vargas, Design Engineer Manager in DPW, presented the second project, which was a subset of a project presented last month, reconstructing curb ramps at the intersection of Beacon, Langley, and Sumner Streets. The larger project was to reconstruct 12 curb ramps and the cost (approximately \$160,000) was over the allotment for the CDBG funding, thus tonight he presented reconstruction of 4 of the 12 curb ramps identified at the site visit on October 14, 2020, to reconstruct first on the east side of the intersection, to bring these curb ramps into ADA compliance, make shorter crossings and straighten the crosswalks and the cost would be approximately \$51,000. This presentation can be viewed on pages 11 and 12. . Alfredo mentioned that this smaller/subset of the larger project was discussed internally by city staff and the Ward 6 City Councilors. Some members felt that someone from the COD should have been involved in that meeting as well, even though Jini was included as one of the city staff. Councilor Bowman said that the Ward 6 Councilors were interested in exploring the possibility of accomplishing some of the curb ramps with the FY22 CDBG funds and perhaps all or some of the remaining curb ramps reconstructed in subsequent years and would petition the Mayor to put this intersection for a more complete renovation on the CIP. There was much discussion about including more curb ramps in this reduced version of the project, but staff felt that the remaining curb ramps, found on the west side of the intersection, is complicated and many of the remaining curb ramps are related to each other, and could also be involved in potential development of the parking lot in the future, along with the possibility of these curb ramps being ripped out and redone. Some members said that this intersection should be a CIP item and not to use CDBG funds for it. Isaac Prizant, city Traffic Engineer, gave his advice on the 3 locations for RRFBs that Sandra had suggested in the fall. The location at the NWH driveway is not an appropriate use of an RRFB, as it is not a mid-block crossing and he has looked at that driveway and could suggest other options there . The location at 1860 Washington St. does fit the criteria of a mid-block crossing, however RRFBs are not recommended for 3 or 4 traffic lanes to cross. The crosswalk at Washington St. and Grove is a 3-lane crossing and again an RRFB would not be a safe enough option . When asked what would be safer, Isaac suggested the last 2 locations would need more assessment and might require a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon(PHB), a more costly investment. Sandra invited Isaac to the NWH Subcommittee meeting on Thursday in order to give their staff some suggestions for the West Entrance driveway, and he agreed.

Before the vote to choose a COD recommended access project for FY22 CDBG funding, Tiffany said it was possible to have a Curb Cut pool for the remaining Fy22 CDBG allocation if the Beacon/Langley/Sumner 4 curb cuts project (\$51,209) was chosen. Sandra made a motion to recommend the perimeter pathway at McGrath Park/Warren House project for FY22 CDBG funding as many more parks throughout the city should have accessible paths like the Newton Highlands Playground has. Barbara seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 8-2 (Lucie and Rob)-1 (Girard abstained). Lakshmi thanked all the staff who presented all the options.

7. Treasurer's Report (7:10-7:15)

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Jane said there were no changes to the balances of the COD accounts since last meeting. The treasurer's report can be found on page 15.

8. ADA Coordinator's Report (7:15-7:20)

Jini gave her ADA activity report, which can be found on page 16. She highlighted a couple of items, co-presenting an award to Representative Kay Khan from the blind community (delayed by Covid 9 months, and virtual), results of the accessible parking space north of Washington St. on Walnut in that commercial block, and her effort to request an accessible parking space in front of the Newtonville Post Office, coming up at the January Traffic Council meeting.

9. Nominating Committee Report (7:20-7:25)

Matt, Chair of the Nominating Committee, gave his report as to the nominations up to this point. You can view his report on page 17. Matt asked all that were nominated if they would serve if elected. Starting with the Treasurer's position, both Warren and Jane were nominated. Warren declined his nomination, and Jane accepted her nomination. For Co-chair positions, Matt and Sandra were nominated but declined, and Lakshmi and Anne Marie were also nominated and accepted their nomination. There were no new nominations from the floor when Matt asked for them.

10. COD Officers Annual Election (7:25-7:55)

Matt described the process of the elections and ran the election. For Treasurer, there was only one nominee, Jane Brown, who was elected unanimously by a vote of 11-0 (Rosemary was absent). For Co-chairs, each member had 2 votes and each member would state the 2 names they were voting for, as everyone was polled. Lakshmi received 11 votes, and Anne Marie received 10 votes, and Warren (although not nominated) received 1 vote. Thus, Lakshmi and Anne Marie were re-elected to serve another year as Co-chairs of the COD. Lakshmi and Anne Marie thanked and appreciated all the members for their vote of confidence and said it was a team effort and they couldn't do it without the support of all the members taking on many tasks to accomplish so much and they look forward to another great year.

11. Presentation by Anne Marie (7:55-8:15)

At this point, Anne Marie was having some technical difficulties with sharing her presentation on the screen and also it was getting late, so she asked to table this agenda item to the February 8 meeting. All concurred.

12. Power Outage Update (8:15-8:25)

Rosemary was going to give an update of last month's efforts regarding her situation which she described last month. Rosemary was not feeling well and was not in attendance. It was decided that this agenda item was tabled to the February 8 meeting.

13. NWH Committee Update (8:25-8:30)

Sandra, Chair, gave an update of the upcoming meeting of the NWH Subcommittee, which will be held on Thursday, January 14, at 2PM and the agenda will be sent out

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tomorrow with the Zoom information. She shared a draft agenda for the meeting, which can be viewed on page 18, and mentioned that many items will remain on the agenda, some taking months to accomplish but hopefully progress will be made at each meeting, some will be completed, and new items will be added. Items still working on: pedestrian activated beacon at West Entrance driveway, 2 curb cuts near White building sidewalk/drive, accessible medical equipment, navigating the hospital with either hearing or vision loss, treatment of patients with different disabilities in the Emergency Department, and accessible parking in both the garage and near the West entrance. A few new items: inaccessible route from top of garage to hospital/lack of signage, accessible route from West entrance parking into that entrance, grab bars in hospital public restrooms (Green Building, in particular), better signage and wayfinding throughout the hospital, and possible free Valet parking for patients with disabilities with a valid disability placard or plate. Several years ago, Barbara negotiated a flat fee for Valet parking for patients with disabilities, which seems reasonable but at least one hospital in Boston provides free valet parking for patients with disabilities, and others give a 50% discount. Barbara also mentioned that the top lot outside of the Cancer Center and not far from the West Entrance, there are 6 signed accessible parking spaces, which have no fee, but very often occupied. From this discussion a suggestion was made that perhaps NWH could have a section on their website which would cover the accessibility features of the hospital and the parking options. In addition, to find out more about the policy that patients who cannot express their own needs is allowed to have a family member to be with them at all times, even during Covid protocols. Sandra said that is also a continuing discussion that the NWH Subcommittee members are having with the NWH staff. Added to that, members suggested discussing with NWH staff their mask wearing protocol, as some patients with disabilities cannot wear a mask, due to their disability, but sometimes are refused to be seen by staff.

14. Adjournment (8:30)

The meeting adjourned at 8:40PM.

These minutes were prepared and submitted by
Jini Fairley, ADA Coordinator

NEXT MEETING DATE: February 8, 2021

The location of this meeting is wheelchair accessible and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities requiring assistance. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please contact the city of Newton's ADA/Sec.504 Coordinator, Jini Fairley, at least two business days in advance of the meeting: jfairley@newtonma.gov or (617) 796-1253. For Telecommunications Relay Service, please dial 711 or call City Hall's TTY/TDD line at 617-796-1089.

NEWTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWTON COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

PARKING TICKET AND FINES REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2020

As of December 31st, 2020

FY 2020 Year-to-date Parking Ticket Totals

TOTAL NUMBER OF TICKETS ISSUED	17
TOTAL VALUE OF TICKETS ISSUED	\$ 3,400.00
REDUCTION AMOUNT	\$ 1,000.00
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID	\$ 800.00
TOTAL OUTSTANDING	\$ 1,600.00

CODE # 26 ACCESSIBILITY SPOTS

NUMBER OF TICKETS ISSUED	12
TOTAL VALUE	\$ 2,400.00
REDUCTION AMOUNT	\$ 800.00
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID	\$ 400.00
TOTAL DUE	\$ 1200.00

CODE # 27 CURB CUTS

NUMBER OF TICKETS ISSUED	5
TOTAL VALUE	\$ 1000.00
REDUCTION AMOUNT	\$ 200.00
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID	\$ 200.00
TOTAL DUE	\$ 600.00

NEWTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWTON COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

PARKING TICKET AND FINES REPORT

December 2020

As of December 31st, 2020

TOTAL NUMBER OF TICKETS ISSUED	1
TOTAL VALUE OF TICKETS ISSUED	\$ 200.00
REDUCTION AMOUNT	\$ 000.00
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID	\$ 000.00
TOTAL OUTSTANDING	\$ 200.00

CODE # 26 ACCESSIBILITY SPOTS

NUMBER OF TICKETS ISSUED	0
TOTAL VALUE	\$ 000.00
REDUCTION AMOUNT	\$ 000.00
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID	\$ 000.00
TOTAL DUE	\$ 000.00

CODE # 27 CURB CUTS

NUMBER OF TICKETS ISSUED	1
TOTAL VALUE	\$ 200.00
REDUCTION AMOUNT	\$ 000.00
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID	\$ 000.00
TOTAL DUE	\$ 200.00

January 2021 CDBG Project Report_Final.pdf

Newton Commission on Disability

CDBG Access Projects Report

January 11, 2021

FY21 Curb Cuts – (CD21-03C; Budget: \$84,043.00; Expended: \$0; Balance: \$84,043.00)

Installation of curb cuts at the following intersections: Watertown Street/West Street and Watertown Street/Edinboro Street. Staff is working on completing the Environmental Review.

Phase I Marty Sender Pathway Installation – (CD21-03A; Budget: \$52,000.00; Expended: \$0; Balance: \$52,000.00)

Reconstruction of the Marty Sender Path with an accessible route, covering approximately ¼ mile of the route. Staff is working on the Environmental Review and the MOA has been finalized.

McGrath Park Accessible Loop Path Diagram V2.0.pdf

McGrath Park Accessible Path

Schematic Plan

3

Total Path Length: .62 Miles

Project Subtotal: \$83,000

10%Contingency: \$8,300

Total : \$91,300

Shift existing entrance on Myrtle to make accessible

Path to connect to existing entrance from Washington St.

Ex. Accessible Parking

Existing Accessible Entrance from Washington St.

Proposed Loop Path: .62 Miles

Benches dispersed throughout path loop.

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

LANGLEY RD

BEACON ST

SUMNER ST

BEACON ST

LANGLEY RD

PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN RAMP

EXISTING CATCH BASIN

APPROXIMATE LOCATION

OF EXISTING SIGNAL POST

REM EXIST PVMT MARKINGS

PROPOSED STOP LINE

PROPOSED CROSSWALK

APPROXIMATE LOCATION

PROPOSED CURB EXTENSION WITH

OF EXISTING SIGNAL POST

PEDESTRIAN RAMP OPENING PROPOSED CROSSWALK PROPOSED CURB

EXTENSION AND

PEDESTRIAN RAMP

EXISTING

CATCH BASIN

APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF EXISTING SIGNAL POST

REM EXIST PVMT MARKINGS

PROPOSED STOP LINE

A.VARGAS SURVEYED BY: P.HIGGINSBASE MAP DRAFTED BY:

CITY OF NEWTON

M.PANZA P.HIGGINS J.DAGHLIAN

MASSACHUSETTS

L.TAVERNA

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AutoCAD SHX Text Indeterminate CHECKED BY:

AutoCAD SHX Text Indeterminate DESIGN DRAFTED BY:

AutoCAD SHX Text Indeterminate DESIGNED BY:

AutoCAD SHX Text Indeterminate APPROVED BY:

DRAINAGE FLOW ARRO

W

0 20 30 40

CITY OF NEWTON

MASSACHUSETTS

FOR THE PEDESTRIAN ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS AT THE LANGLEY RD, SUMNER

ST AND BEACON ST

INTERSECTION

PHASE 1 CONCEPT PLAN (EAST SIDE)

10

SCALE: 1" = 10'

1

PAGE OF 1

Louis M. Taverna, P.E.

DATE: 12/28/20

Conceptual Cost Estimate Beacon-Langley-Sumner E Side.pdf

Conceptual Cost Estimate Langley-Beacon-Sumner

table with 5 columns and 29 rows

ITEM NUMBER & DESCRIPTION

QTY

UNIT

UNIT

TOTAL COST

102.51 - TREE PROTECTION

1

EA

\$400.00

\$400

120.1 - UNCLASSIFIED EXCAVATION

43

CY

\$40.00

\$1,720

151. - GRAVEL BORROW

24

CY

\$40.00

\$960

158. - CONTROL OF GRADE AND CROSS SECTION

1

LS

\$733.00

\$733

170. - FINE GRADING AND COMPACTING

111

SY

\$20.00

\$2,220

381.3 - SERVICE BOX ADJUSTED

2

EA

\$300.00

\$600

402. - DENSE GRADED CRUSHED STONE FOR SUB-BASE

7

CY

\$100.00

\$700

450.23 - SUPERPAVE SURFACE COURSE - 12.5 (SSC - 12.5)

1

TON

\$500.00

\$500

504. - GRANITE CURB TYPE VA4 - STRAIGHT

11

FT
\$58.00
\$638
504.1 - GRANITE CURB TYPE VA4 - CURVED
52
FT
\$65.00
\$3,380
580. - CURB REMOVED AND RESET
41
FT
\$40.00
\$1,640
594. - CURB REMOVED AND DISCARDED
11
FT
\$13.00
\$143
697.1 - SILT SACK
3
EA
\$260.00
\$780
701. - CEMENT CONCRETE SIDEWALK
64
SY
\$125.00
\$8,000
701.2 - CEMENT CONCRETE PEDESTRIAN RAMP
48
SY
\$150.00
\$7,200
748. - MOBILIZATION 3%
1
LS
\$1089.00
\$1,089
852.01 - TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL 5%
1
LS
\$1781.00
\$1,781
854.1 - PAVEMENT MARKING REMOVAL
500
SF
\$2.00
\$1,000
856.12 - PORTABLE CHANGEABLE MESSAGE SIGN
40

DAY
\$30.00
\$1,200
866.112 - 12 INCH REFLECTORIZED WHITE LINE - PAINTED
513
FT
\$5.00
\$2,565
874.2 - TRAFFIC SIGN REMOVED AND RESET
1
EA
\$150.00
\$150
SUBTOTAL

\$37,399

999.01 - MISCELLANEOUS WORK ALLOWANCE (ENG. DISCRETIONARY FUND) 5%

1
ALL
\$1,869.95
\$1,870

999.02 - POLICE TRAFFIC CONTROL ALLOWANCE

1
ALL
\$8,000.00
\$8,000

999.03 - TRAFFIC PED SIGNALS

1
LS
\$200.00
\$200

999.04 - CONTINGENCIES 10%

1
LS
\$3,739.90
\$3,740
TOTAL

\$51,209

Treasurer's Report

Given by Jane Brown, Treasurer of the Commission On Disability

Presented at the January 11, 2021 COD Meeting

As of December 11, 2020, the balances of the COD accounts have not changed since the December meeting and are as follows:

Account # 5500-335518 H-P. Fines-Disability Commission

Type: Receipts Reserved for Appropriation (These funds have to go before the City Council to be appropriated before being used)

Balance: \$61,939 (should increase after city audit is complete)

Account # 01C10802-513010 Operation Access – Disability Commission

Set up to pay for targeted enforcement of accessible HP Fines violations by the Police

Type: Special Appropriations

Balance: \$1880.89

Account#C401083-586005 Set up to purchase and install Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS) units at the Waverly/Tremont intersection

Type: Special Appropriations

Balance: **\$50.50** (8 APS units installed in December 2018)

Account #13D10901 Set up in Fall 2015 to receive Community Access Monitor Program fees and pay expenses)

Type: Revolving Account

Balance: \$29**0.00**

ADA COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Given by Jini Fairley, ADA/Section 504 Coordinator, and presented at the January 11, 2021 COD meeting.

Site Visits:

None

Trainings:

- Webinar: Social Media Management- Accessibility Basics- excellent
- Webinar: Interior & Exterior Accessible Routes (ADA/ABA)

Meeting/Events/Conference Calls:

- Police Reform Task Force- attend weekly, one of several city staff resources to task force
- PRTF public Town Hall “Where Are We Now” run by their consultants
- **Co-Presenter of award to Rep. Kay Khan as part of B.L.I.N.D.-virtually**
- Real Property Reuse Committee- regarding the West Newton Armory
- Newton Historic- for NewCAL
- City Council Mtg- Re: Local Preference agenda item
- Human Rights Commission monthly Mtg
- Joint Programs&Services (PS) & Public Facilities (PF(Committees and community meetings re: NewCAL
- NewCAL- every other week meeting
- Fair Housing Committee- I attend this monthly
- Complete Streets Committee & Road Paving- I attend every other week
- CODA- monthly meeting- with other CODs’ members and ADA Coordinators
- West Newton & Newtonville Streetscapes Working Group- every other week updates

Newton Commission on Disability Nominating Committee Report – January 2021

On January 11th the COD will conduct elections for its leadership positions. There are three positions being contested: Two co-chairs and one treasurer.

The committee has been collecting nominations for a few months and those nominated have been notified:

Treasurer Nominees:

Warren Abramson

Jane Brown*

Co-Chair (2) Nominees:

Lakshmi Kadambi*

Anne-Marie Killilea*

Sandra Lingley

Matt Volpi

(* *Current office holder*)

There will be an opportunity for additional nominations from the floor at the time of the election. Following the nominations, each nominee will be asked “If elected will you serve?” Those that say yes will then be included in the final slate of nominees for each position.

Following this, we will conduct the election as follows:

For the position of Treasurer, the final list of nominees will be read and displayed on the screen of the videoconference. Each member in turn will then state the name of the person they are voting for, with those votes recorded in a spreadsheet and in the minutes. The nominee with the most votes will win.

For the positions of Co-Chairs, the final list of nominees will be read and displayed on the screen of the videoconference. Each member in turn will then state the name of the two people they are voting for, with those votes recorded in a spreadsheet and in the minutes. The nominees with the most votes and second most votes will win.

These procedural changes are intended to ensure the election process is fair, clear, and unambiguous for all participating and for the public.

Discussion Points:

-
- Installation of Pedestrian Activated Flashing Beacon ‘Pedestrian in Crosswalk’ sign on NWH Property just before vehicles exiting the West Entrance Driveway at crosswalk**
-
- Curb Cuts in front/near White Building and**
-
- Update: Availability of Accessible Medical Equipment, such as adjustable exam table & Slide Board for Transfer from Wheelchair, accessible Mammogram Machine**
-
- Update: Accommodations for patients with hearing loss undergoing testing (X-rays, MRI’s, CT scans, etc.) Addition: How to maneuver way around the hospital.**
-
- Update: Accommodations for patients with vision loss (language-“go there”, touching - pulling patients, etc.) at hospital entrance COVID check in and any tests, procedures, etc. Addition: How to maneuver way around the hospital.**
-
- Update: Emergency Room regarding patients with disabilities including PCAs, ventilators, mental health issues, etc.**
-
- Parking Garage/Lot issues: Difficult to get into hospital from accessible parking spaces, not enough spaces, missing curb cuts, not accessible**
-
- Grab bars in restrooms in Green Building**
- Access Updates from NWH Next Meeting/Regular Monthly Meeting Date & Time**

2

2