

Andover Commission on Disability—November 29, 2017 Committee Meeting

After the agenda was duly posted and distributed the meeting was convened on Wednesday, November 29, 2017, at 6:39 p.m. at the Memorial Hall Library Activity Room

Present: Chair Julie Pike, Joe Connelly, Justin Coppola Sr., Justin Coppola Jr., Trish Leelman, Stephen Surette, Judy Wakefield, and Carlene Bell Flanagan guest

Minutes: Minutes of the October 25, 2017 meeting—Justin Sr. approved Stephen seconded, unanimously approved.

Old Business:

Spot Checks —Steve reported that signs are being made and plans are being made in preparation for winter. The missing curb cut (previously noted in ACOD minutes) across from Taylor Cove Road has recently been fixed. *Action Item: Steve will check on town hall curb cut.* .

Vacancies -- Julie noted that we have one vacancy open for the commission as Trish Leelman was recently sworn in to be a member.

Update on the plans for the playground at Wood and High Plain Schools —Joe gave a brief update on this playground access project which was approved at the last town meeting, for \$400K. Since then, project bids have been “overbid” by about \$129K. Also, Lemon Brooke landscape architects were asked to come up with viable options for this area. Four were presented and Joe gave the highlights of the following:

- L-001 Landscape site plan with ramp portion/ handrails and two lane area (base) top of the parking lot to the field (Baseline)
- L-002 Landscape Site plan with slide (not being considered)
- L-003 Landscape Site plan including two slides and curved stairs, rubberized playground area, guard rails, and bench. All students would have one entry point toward this ramp path. This is Add Alt#1 which will be done if enough money.
- L-004 Landscape Site plan with slide, seats, and curved stairs, rubberized playground area (not being considered)

Discussion ensued among members and guest Colleen Bell Flanagan concerning details and costs. Joe noted that a further design review is scheduled to take place on December 13th and bid package should be complete before the holidays.

Bids will be available for the public January 2nd or 3rd with a bid opening January 21. Joe further noted that this will be a Spring project and he will provide updates as the meetings progress.

Doherty School Elevator-- Justin Sr. reported at previous meetings that the current ramp is not ADA compliant. He learned from the Town Manager's Capital Improvement Program FY2019-FY2023 that the projected cost for this item alone could be as high as \$1.8M. He learned from the 10/25/17 Finance Committee Meeting that this elevator will be part of a larger Doherty Needs study to ensure proper location of the elevator and overall school needs issues. This "re-configuring" will likely be included in an upcoming CIP.

Facebook for ACOD--Julie has contacted Town Manager Flanagan about this issue.

New Business

Future Project —Justin Sr. reiterated that the upcoming town transition plan is key to future ACOD planning. We do not know what the plan provides at this time.

Plans regarding Fire stations and Town Yard will involve ACOD although the Haggetts' Pond trail and other town trail access plans will be pushed out to FY20

Announcements:

Holiday Happenings: -- Julie and Joe informed the commission about the upcoming Town of Andover Holiday Happenings, which will take place between 4-8PM on December 1st. Steve noted that Main street will be closed to traffic at 3:30 and Joe described the events scheduled at various venues including Santa at Old Town Hall, Sleigh rides from the park downtown and back; a movie at Veterans' Memorial Hall uptown, tree lighting, followed by fireworks at the playstead. Handicap parking will be in the spaces between town hall and the Doherty school.

Julie noted that yesterday's Tribune described new laws for handicap parking which go into effect September 2018. According to the article "those who lie to obtain or replace a placard face a \$500 fine for a first offense and \$1,000 for subsequent offences." Also, "disabled individuals will have to provide documentation to the Registry of Motor Vehicles when applying for a handicapped parking plate or placard" rather than just a doctor's signature under current law.

Judy reported that the Andover Service Club will recognize Bernadette at Palmers December 12th for her part in creating "My Own Voice"

Adjournment: Justin Sr. made a motion to adjourn and Stephen seconded

Next meeting: *January 24, 2018 at 6:30 pm*

Memorial Hall Library, Activity Room, Lower Level

Respectfully Submitted
Susan McKelliget