

Chelmsford Commission on Disabilities
Tuesday, May 16, 2023
Meeting Minutes

Attending:

Joanne Stanway, Katrina Schmidt, Jose Negron

The meeting started at 7:05 p.m.

General Discussion

Commission member discussed the renovations to the OddFellows Building and previous concerns about the walkway to the entrance and water drainage. In addition, Joanne asked Jose Negron about ensuring an accessible entrance to the new steak house from the parking lot and dedicated accessible parking spots. Jose said he would view the plans and do a site visit.

Joanne and Katrina shared observations from their “accessibility site tour” of downtown to take note of local businesses and municipal areas that may have accessibility or ADA-compliance concerns. The group decided a good next step would be to draft a letter to describe what could be improved with a request to make voluntary repairs before involving the Building Commissioner.

Joanne discussed the need to recruit members, although this meeting was the best-attended meeting in a couple of years.

Katrina shared there was a “Blessing of the Ramp” at St. Mary Church to show the result of the lengthy process of installing a ramp at the entrance to the church.

Katrina reported that the handicapped parking spots in the municipal parking lot need to be re-marked. Jose took note and said he would look into it.

Jose reported that the ramp at Zesty’s Pizza was repaired by the owners.

Katrina asked about the McFarlan Senior Housing renovations and the plan for relocating residents after hearing concerns from displaced residents. Joanne will connect with Dave Hedison of the Housing Authority.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Joanne Stanway
Chair