



# TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

## COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES

### NOTICE OF MEETING

October 05<sup>th</sup>, 2020 | 7:00 p.m.

Via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83299472279?pwd=Si8rTWpLcC9FMFRPUjlzNWpCZHc2Zz09>

Consistent with the Governor's orders suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law and banning gatherings of more than 10 people, this meeting will be conducted by remote participation to the greatest extent possible. The public may not physically attend this meeting, but every effort will be made to allow the public to view and/or listen to the meeting in real time. Persons who wish to do so are invited to click on the following link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83299472279?pwd=Si8rTWpLcC9FMFRPUjlzNWpCZHc2Zz09>, Passcode: 129520. If you do not have a camera or microphone on your computer you may use the following dial in number: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID 832 9947 2279. Please only use dial in or computer and not both as feedback will distort the meeting. This meeting will be audio and video recorded.

### Meeting Agenda

#### Call to Order

*Meeting was called to order at 7:01. All members were present.*

#### Pledge Allegiance if flag is available

*The pledge was stated.*

Mission Statement – "Our mission is to address the needs and concerns of our disabled residents and provide their full participation in the activities and services of Wakefield."

*Mission statement was read.*

#### Public Participation

*Jeff Dougan from the Massachusetts Office on Disabilities presented. Here is a summary of his key points:*

- *He has been with the department for 20 years.*
- *There is no authority as a committee but instead we are in an advisory role, and assist with town activities and ensure they are available to disabled members of the community.*
- *There are 10 goals for committees*
  - *Ensure title 2 compliance and communication access*
  - *As a committee we should determine if we have the expertise to respond to any issues related to the goals and if not we can seek training from state.*
  - *We can refer issues that we cannot address to Jeff and he will respond or direct us to the person who can response*



- *We should work directly with our ADA coordinator. Jeff will let us know the name of our ADA coordinator.*
- *He recommends we review the goals and identify the specific goals we will focus on this year.*
- *The independent learning center that supports Wakefield is North Shore independent learning center. It is in Salem.*
- *Most commissions meet 8-10 times a year. It is recommended that a commission meets at least once a month.*
- *Commissions can include not less than 5 and up to 13 members according to the law.*
- *We need to find out if the town has adopted Chapter 40- Section 8J about number of members allowed to serve on the commission.*
- *Because handicap ticket funds go back to the commission, then it is most likely we are a Chapter 40-Section 8J committee.*
- *He also shared the ADA Title 2 action guide and checklist. The guide and checklist is a web based tool that we can use to determine ADA guidance provided by the New England ADA center. Trainings are also available.*
- *There is a checklist for ADA compliance. It asks basic yes or no questions and then provides information about how to solve the issue.*
- *The checklist can be used for access compliance questions.*
- *The Municipal ADA Improvement Grant program with a due date of Oct 9<sup>th</sup>. We should review to apply next year.*
- *There are project specific grants. There are additional requirements for these grants.*
- *They currently have 30-40 applications. The maximum grant award is \$250,000 and given only to one commission. The remaining grants are smaller amounts. They awarded 50 grants last year.*
- *Tax incentives are available to small businesses. Business providing communication or access for disabled community members.*
- *Jeff will send all the documents he shared, including an outdoor dining fact sheet.*

Approval of Minutes from September 14, 2020 meeting

*September 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting minutes approved.*

Financial Report as of October 5, 2020

Old/New Business

*Marie shared about updated POST activities with the community and a video that will be shared.*

*Lorna shared the Bill Renault is our ADA coordinator and should be invited to meetings or have an opportunity to share information with him.*

Follow-up on handicap parking space in front of Café' Italia

*Outdoor seating is now gone.*

Follow-up on any voting issues related to disabilities

Wrap –up.....Next Meeting November 2,2020

Motion to Adjourn at 8:28 PM

Respectfully Submitted by Lorna Davidson-Connelly, Co-chair