

## Marblehead Disabilities Commission - Meeting Minutes – December 10, 2020

**Members Present:** Laurie Blaisdell, Andrea Mountain, Preston Ford, Samantha Marino, Katie Farrell, Amy Hirschkron, Ed Lang, Sue Harris

**Guests Present:** Nancy Powell, Tim Shotmeyer

Laurie called the meeting to order at 4:23 p.m.

Minutes of the November 12, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved.

Andrea will add Amy's name to the list of Commission members on the Commission website.

Accessible Massachusetts Act (H. 4425). The Commission discussed the proposed Accessible Massachusetts Act that would amend Section 13A of Chapter 22 of the Massachusetts General Laws to enhance the authority of the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board by adding new requirements for Board composition, the conversion of pre-1991 buildings into multiple housing units, expanding accessibility requirements for public buildings, and allowing the Board to enforce accessibility requirements in workplaces. The proposed law is currently pending in the House and Ways Means Committee. The Board agreed that Laurie would invite Lori Erlich and Jeff Dougan to upcoming Commission meetings to discuss this proposed law and other topics of concern to the Commission.

Snow Removal. The Commission discussed a proposed citizen's petition for a Town warrant article that would add a sidewalk snow removal bylaw. After discussion, the Commission agreed that the Commission would not take a position on the article, but would seek to provide input with respect to disabilities concerns.

Update on Fort Sewall Project. Ed reported that (1) the new path is being paved today, (2) restrooms, with new toilets and made accessible, replacement of some walls, and railings for the stairs will be completed in January, (3) canons will be placed in March, and (4) plantings and grass will be done in the Spring.

Update on Marblehead Harbor and Water Access. Laurie reported that she and Sue drafted a letter to the Harbors & Waters Board expressing the Commission's concerns relating to water access in Marblehead. Laurie will be sending the letter out within the next few days.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Harris, Member