

Marblehead Disabilities Commission  
Meeting Minutes – July 14, 2022

Members Present: Laurie Blaisdell, Amy Hirschkron, Andrea Mountain, Cheryl LaLonde, Sue Harris

Members Absent: Rich Ramos, Samantha Marino, Katie Farrell, Ed Lang

Laurie called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

1. Upon motion by Cheryl, seconded by SAndrea, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2022 meeting.

2. Harbor Lift. The new harbor lift was installed at State Street dock and dedicated at a ceremony on June 25. The ceremony was filmed by MHTV and was on Headliner News for a week starting June 30. Amy reported that the lift has not yet been used. She will re-publicize its availability on social media.

3. Town Committee on Remote Access to Public Meetings. Laurie has contacted several people about being a member of this committee as representative of the Commission. She will continue to pursue the matter.

4. Remote Access to Future Commission Meetings. For future meetings of the Commission, the open meeting law will require that meetings be in person with at least the Chair present, with remote access available for other members if desired. Laurie learned that this technical capability exists at the Town's Widger Road location, which is available to the Commission on Wednesdays from 4 – 8 p.m. If necessary, beginning in September, the Commission will change its meeting day to Wednesday to take advantage of this capability.

5. Accessible Locations Brochure. The brochure has been printed (1,000 copies. Sue dropped off about 500 copies with the Marblehead Chamber of Commerce, which will make them available at the Information Booth and at its Pleasant Street office. The Commission agreed that additional copies should be left at Abbot Hall (gift shop and Town Clerk), Abbot Library, and the Community Center. Sue will distribute them and monitor demand at each location. Andrea will update the Commission website's information on accessible locations to reflect the new information. Sue will request the Chamber to put the new list on its website (this can be a link to the Commission website once that is updated).

6. Future Projects. Possible future projects include looking at handicapped access to public parks in town, issues with the ramp providing access to the Devereaux Beach restaurant, and addressing the lack of maintenance to the Mobie mat, ramp and boardwalk providing access to the Devereaux Beach playground. All property at Devereaux Beach is owned by the Town. Laurie will contact the director of the Parks & Recreation department about these issues and report back to the Commission.

7. August Meeting. As is usual, the Commission agreed not to meet in August.

Upon motion by Amy, seconded by Cheryl, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 8, 2022 (date may change if in-person is required)

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Harris, Commission Member

Approved by unanimous vote of the Commission: September 8, 2022