



**CITY OF WALTHAM
WALTHAM DISABILITY SERVICES
COMMISSION**

**119 School Street
Waltham Massachusetts 02451**

**Minutes of REGULAR Meeting
AUGUST 5, 2022**

The Members of the Disabilities Services Commission met in Regular Session on August 5, 2022 at 110 Pond St., Waltham, MA. The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 8:30. A.M,

Present:

Mark A. Johnson
Robert Marcou
Joanne Stone
Pamela Jones
JT Graceffa
Adam Maher

Absent:

Jane Demers

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 3, 2022 were reviewed.

Upon a motion by Joann Stone and second by JT Graceffa it was,

VOTED: The minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 3, 2022
were accepted as presented.

A roll call of Commission Members for the vote was unanimous and the Chairperson declared the motion carried

CONTINUATION OF REMOTE MEETINGS OF THE DISABILITY SERVICES COMMISSION

With the uncertainty of the Covid Virus and its variants, Governor Baker has authorized the continuation of virtual meetings for municipalities until August 2023 as long as the public has access to such meetings.

In an effort to continue the DSC's mission of advocating and advancing accessibility for disabled individuals in Waltham, while maintaining the well-being and safety of the Members of the Disability Commission, it was

Upon a motion by JT Graceffa and second by Pamela Jones

VOTED: The Disability Services Commission will continue to hold their ten (10) Monthly Meetings virtually. The Commission will also reassess this action in August 2023.

A roll call of Commission Members for this vote found the following Commission Members voted Yes, to continue meeting remotely. Mark Johnson, JT Graceffa, Pamela Jones, Robert Marcou, Joann Stone and Adam Maher with Jane Demers as absent. The vote was then unanimous and the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

HP RAMP AT AMERICAN LEGION BLDG. AT BEAVER AND WAVERLEY OAKS RD.

The DSC Chairperson has received complaints concerning the questionable condition of the HP Ramp at the American Legion Building at Beaver and Waverley Oaks Road. Several Commission Members also expressed concerns about what they have seen from a distance, but not an in-person inspection of the HP ramp. While this Club is not City property the DSC would strongly suggest the ramp be inspected for compliance with current ADA requirements for handicap access ramps.

Commission Member, Joann Stone will reach out to City Councilor, Sean Durkee, to see what action may be taken, if necessary.

MAIN ST. POST OFFICE MAILBOXES

After several constituents voiced concerns to the Mayor's Office and the DSC Commission itself, regarding the removal of a mailbox situated on the side of the Main Street PO by the HP Parking Spots, to the front of the Post Office on Main Street. The DSC Chair, Mark Johnson contacted a Supervisor at the US Post Office to discuss the matter. According to the Supervisor, the box was moved from the side as it was an open slot mailbox and there had been reports of mail theft from this box. The PO felt it would be advantageous to move an anti-theft slot-type box directly on Main Street the Main Street location on the street would assist in the monitoring of the mail box against possible theft. Mr. Johnson requested an anti-theft slot mailbox be returned to the side of the Main Street PO near the HP parking to make accessibility easier for elderly and disabled residents.

MIDDLESEX DISTRICT COURTHOUSE-LINDEN STREET

Following up on a complaint several Members of the Commission viewed the sidewalks in front of the Middlesex District Courthouse on Linden Street. The members found several areas in the length of the sidewalk, directly in front of the Courthouse, could cause someone using a handicapped mobility device to trip or fall causing an injury. Photographs were taken and distributed amount Commission Members for inspection. It was agreed repairs must be made and Bob Marcou agreed to contact Mike Chiasson of the Waltham DPW to schedule repair work.

DSC WEBSITE

The Commission's Website Administrator, JT Graceffa will post on the site today's decision of the Disability Services Commission to return to holding our monthly meetings virtually.

POLICE DETAILS

The Chairperson, Mark Johnson reported that during July \$580.00 in parking citations had been collected from the violators of Waltham's HP Parking Program. This revenue was collected from officers witnessing violators of the HP Parking Regulations during their regular patrol and not paid details.

FINANCES

No Financial Reports were supplied to the Commission for the August meeting.

UPCOMING PROJECTS/OTHER MATTERS

Several members of the DSC expressed bewilderment after learning of the proposed plans for the reuse of the Fernald Property were posted on the City's Recreation Department site. Several commented as a commission for the disabled, with a task of working toward the betterment of disabled citizens and accessibility for all in the City, why the Disability Services Commission was not included in discussion for the property plans.

SCHEDULING OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

There being no apparent scheduling conflict with the routine date for the next Regular Meeting, which will be held remotely on September 2, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

There being no further business rightly before the Board, upon a motion by Adam Maher and second by JoAnn Stone it was voted to adjourn. A roll call of Commission Members for the vote was unanimous and the Chairperson declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned.

The Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Documents available at the meeting of August 5, 2022
The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 3, 2022

