

# BARNSTABLE DISABILITY COMMISSION

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Paul Logan, Chair  
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Linda McKinney  
Sheila Mulcahy  
Eileen Elias  
Inna Podgornaya

Barnstable Disability Commission  
Minutes  
October 16, 2024  
via Zoom from 10 am to 12 pm

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Members present:** Paul Logan; Chair, John Lundborn, Vice Chair, Patty Ericson – Taylor, Inna Podgornaya, Lori Gillen, Sheila Mulcahy, Linda McKinney, and Tammy Cunningham, Deputy Director of HR and ADA Coordinator.

**Others Present:** Michelle Davies, Recreation, Andrea Figaretto, Wheldon Library, John Gleason, Director of Recreation, Rhonda Garron, Sight Loss Services, Krissanne Caron, Asst. Director of Community Services, Mackenzie Bonaiuto, COD, Lisa Judelson, Sight Loss Services, Lois Fournier, and Peter Bertling, Transportation and Parking Manager.

**Members Excused:** Eileen Elias

**Public Comment:** Peter Bertling stated he has submitted to the Town Manager an increase in the handicap parking fines from \$100 to \$200.

**Minutes of September 18, 2024** – Sheila Mulcahy made the correction that the Rowing to Recovery program is not a feeder program and asked that sentence be struck. Sheila Mulcahy moved to approve as amended, John Lundborn seconded. Unanimous.

**Speaker – Lisa Judelson, Support Group Leader at Sight Loss Services & chairperson of the Sandwich Commission on Disability and Rhonda Garron, Director of Site Loss Services**  
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Lisa Judelson gave background on the Sight Loss Services program and the services provided to individuals who are legally blind as well as not legally blind, on a temporary or permanent basis. Rhonda Garron stated in 2024, 195 individuals in Barnstable received 630 units of service. In 2023, 245 individuals in Barnstable received 909 units of service. Services include home visits, adaptive aids, social events, grants support groups, and transportation. A follow up discussion will be held in November with Lisa Judelson. In addition, a formal proposal for funding was requested for Sight Loss Services to submit to the Barnstable Disability Commission.

**Beach Wheelchair proposal** – A discussion was held with John Gleason on the purchasing of a motorized beach chair. Per the discussion with John Gleason, at his recommendation, the purchasing of additional mobi – mats would provide much greater accessibility at Barnstable beaches. Currently, Barnstable has 12 non-motorized beach chairs. All beaches except Joshua's Pond have a beach chair on site for use.

**Rowing to Recovery Water Access (Lake Wequaquet in Centerville)** - A discussion was held on the Rowing to Recovery program and access to water and use of storage at Lake Wequaquet. John Gleason stated that no one had been denied access to Lake Wequaquet. He added that this conversation was just recently brought back to his attention. It was recommended that Sheila and Lois send an email to John to discuss the matter.

***Whelden Library Proposal*** (Andrea Figaratto and Krissanne Caron) – Andrea Figaratto reviewed the proposed accessibility improvements. The library is seeking funding assistance to include upgrades to the parking lot, thresholds, a new accessible book drop, and a new ramp. She added that they have applied for some grants.

***Whole Foods Accessible Parking*** – A brief discussion was held on the accessible parking spaces at Whole Foods. There are 206 spaces requiring 5 accessible spaces. Paul Logan will reach out to Brian Florence.

***Report from Posters Subcommittee*** – John Lundborn has delivered the posters to Tammy Cunningham for distributing to Town buildings.

***Report from Scholarships Sub Committee*** – Nothing new to report.

***Financial Report*** – Current balance is \$45,992.18.

***Discussion on Whelden Library*** – A brief discussion was held on the Whelden Library proposal for funding. John Lundborn made a motion to grant funding for the thresholds for a total of \$221.48, Linda McKinney seconded. Unanimous.

***Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair*** – None

Motion to adjourn by John Lundborn at 12:08 pm, Patty Ericson - Taylor seconded. Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Tammy L. Cunningham*

**Objective of the Barnstable Disability Commission  
is to advise and guide the Town of Barnstable and the general public regarding  
issues of accessibility in accordance with the American's With Disabilities Act (ADA).**