COMMISSION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
12 April 2022
Regularly Monthly Meeting

Commissioners: Adrianne Pomeroy, Staff Liaison, ADA Coordinator
Bonnie Denis, Chair
Holly Simione, Commissioner
Katie Milton, Commissioner
Lian Guertin, Commissioner
Brian C. Postlewaite, Secretary, Director of Engineering

Assoc. Commissioners: Henry Edward Hardy
Pauline Downing

Guests: Nancy, Close captioner
Jamie Perconti
Harriotte Ranvig
Colin Killick
Ginny Alverson, PTAC-Vice Chair

Note: Due to COVID-19 Shutdown, all attendees were remote via Zoom Meeting.
General
  o Jamie Perconti nominated for associate commissioner. Unanimous approval.
  o Harriotte Ranvig nominated for associate commissioner. Unanimous approval.

Chair’s Report
  • Mike Mastrobuoni met with Bonnie & Adrienne about the use of the accessible parking funds; further discussion in Old Business.
  • Bonnie met with US2 regarding their Webster/Prospect project:
    o 30’ grade across the site resulting in many ramps and stairs
    o Receptive to request to provide more designated space for accessible seating
    o Discussed the inaccessibility of the social stairway at MBTA plaza at D2; US2 will consider, but likely too late to revise that design
    o Invited US2 to attend an SCPD meeting
    o Discussed paving & seating materials with goal to be more accessible friendly
    o Discussed that we can request and that they can build beyond ADA/MAAB minimums
    o ADA/MAAB does not include best practices for those with sensory disabilities

Coordinator’s Report
  • SCPD membership applications:
    o deadline is Friday, 15 April
    o sent to ADA email
    o five currently interested
    o will review applications over the next few weeks
  • RSJ webinars on a regular basis about various topics; they are all recorded and available.
  • RSJ is developing a city-wide ADA/accessibility survey.

Old Business
  • Accessible Parking Funds
Over a 9 month period the Parking Dept generated approximately $59,000.

The Commission needs to write a MOU discussing the categories to spend the funds on and submit to the City Council for approval on an annual basis.

The MOU allows for more expedient processing of payment requests to the City Accountant.

Do funds carry over from year to year? Yes, it is a revolving fund.

Does the SCPD currently have a City budget line item? Not currently; this is also up for consideration and would be separate from the Accessible Parking Funds.

Items on the City budget line item would most likely be used for staff support during meetings (e.g. minutes by Clerk’s office).

Accessible Parking Fund requirements:
- May not include items that other businesses, organizations or institutions are already required to accomplish by law or regulation.
- Must be a benefit that supports the community in general or the disability community in particular.
- May not support individuals, alone.

Accessible Parking Fund budget ideas:
- Stuff/Items
  - Accessible playground equipment
  - Accessible sports equipment
  - Magnifying equipment for the library
  - Library books related to disabilities or characters with disabilities
  - Busstop benches
- Programming
  - Art exhibits
  - Performance/poetry
  - Afterschool programs for students with disabilities
- Publicity
  - Publications
  - Yard signs
  - Press releases
  - Public service announcements
- Social Media
  - Grant Making
    - Scholarships
    - Arts/culture fund
    - Sign language interpretation for other organizations
  - Internal Operations
    - Training
    - Office supplies & equipment
    - Meeting food
    - Accessible mapping guides
    - Study accessible features to be placed throughout the city
    - Consultant to recommend and direct work throughout the city to improve the lives of those with disabilities
    - Parking violation officers to better enforce accessible parking rules

Motion to Adjourn Meeting; approved unanimously.