



Public Health
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CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

COMMISSION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

September 10, 2019

Regular Monthly Meeting

Present: Nancy Salamoun, Staff Liaison, Mgr. of Equity Diversity and Inclusion
Colin Killick, Chair
Bonnie Denis, Commissioner
Brian Postlewaite, City Staff, Commissioner

Absent: Finn Gardner, Commissioner

Guests: Katie Milton, Resident
Jewel, Resident

Welcome and Introductions

Meeting commenced on September 10 at 6:37pm.

Announcements

Bonnie Denis is still working with Somervision on a fall forum. They will be finalizing a date. It will likely be in October or November.

Members' Report

Bonnie Denis is concerned about the HP parking around SomerNova. It appears that they are trying to get rid of their HP spaces. General concerns about parking in the area and that the HP spaces keep getting moved around for the businesses.

Bonnie is also concerned about the lack of accessible housing option for inclusionary housing. Can we check in with Inclusionary Housing?

Director's Report

Colin gave an update on Gilman Street Station that is to be built adjacent to City Hall. There are discussions about bringing back the old idea of an elevator from the underground parking lot.

An Alternative Housing Program initiative has recently received 1.8 million more in funding than last year. This could be a funding potential for accessible housing. Looking to discuss this with the Housing Stability Unit.

Public Input

- No members of the public were present.

Old Business

- Motion to pass July 2019 minutes- approved unanimously.
- Elections:
 - Motion by Brian Postlewaite to appoint Bonnie Denis to Chair. Motion seconded by Colin Killick. Motion approved unanimously.
 - Motion by Bonnie Dennis to appoint Brian Postlewaite to Secretary. Motion seconded by Colin Killick. Motion approved unanimously.

- HP Parking Revenue update: The Department of Traffic and Parking provided Nancy with the number of HP parking violations issued in FY19.
 - 411 HP violations and 126 HP ramp blocked violations
 - Commission is looking to have this revenue go towards addressing accessibility concerns in the City. Preference will be given to concerns that are not typically a City responsibility.
 - The Commission will develop a plan on what to do with the money.
- Remote Participation
 - Tabled to a future meeting.
 - Members will draft procedures for next month's meeting.
- Somervision
 - Date for forum will likely be end of October/beginning of November.
 - Bonnie will email date as soon as possible.
- NDEAM
 - Members decided to not hold an NDEAM event this year. Rather the focus will be on the forum.
- Sidewalk Prioritization Plan
 - Brian provided an update. A contract for the sidewalks is in the works. The funds will be dedicated 75% towards the plan and 25% to address ADA complaints as they come up as well as councilor complaints and 311 calls. Priority will go towards accessibility.
 - Brian will provide an update at a later meeting.
 - Bonnie is concerned about the inaccessible brick sidewalks in Davis Square.
 - Bonnie will invite Councilor Davis to discuss accessibility in Davis Square.
 - Bonnie is also concerned with restaurant outside seating obstructing the sidewalk and accessibility.
 - Brian will look into the licensing process.

New Business

- Motion to change the October meeting as October 8th is Yom Kippur.
 - Motion approved. October meeting to be held on October 15th at 6:30pm.

Motion to Adjourn Meeting: 8:10pm