

**ADA Committee Meeting Minutes
Friday, 10/14/2016, 10:00 AM
Hanna Cosman Meeting Room
Municipal Center, 230 Main Street**

Mission Statement: "The Brattleboro ADA Advisory Committee is dedicated to creating awareness of ADA concerns while providing information about, advocacy for, and solutions to the Town's ADA-related needs and issues."

10:00 Opening

Attending: Committee members: Gary Snyder, Elizabeth Snyder, Julie Tamler, Reuben Tamler, Gail Kennedy Haines,

Public: Grace Beninson, Krystale Chicoine, Whitney Nichols

All approved minutes of previous meeting.

Old business:

(1) Accessible sidewalks/Elizabeth and Gary

Discussion on importance of following through on listing 10 sites a month to give to Town Manager. Need to do this before the snow comes.

Winter issues for the sidewalks:

A few churches in town do not shovel their sidewalks, or do it on an irregular basis.

Snow tends to be pushed up to the light fixtures in town making it difficult or impossible for pedestrians to touch the 'walk' buttons.

It was decided we would come up with a list of snow related issues for the town to be aware of. We will give this information to the town manager ahead of the snow falls so they can be educated and sort out how to handle the issues before the issues arise.

(2) Gallery Walk/Krystale

Discussion about what should be at the tabling. Decided we would make a poster giving information about the time, dates, and purpose of ADA meeting. Krystale would have this at the table.

Whitney will make copies or get brochures on information related to invisible disabilities.

Krystale will look into our having brown bag lunches to discuss what we do at the ADA committee and disability in general.

(3) Letter to town about voting accessibility/Julie

We will welcome the new town clerk with information previously discussed with prior town clerk.

Gail will write the letter.

Posters were discussed. In the future, we will include contact information for the town for all posters related to voting.

(4) Invisible disabilities and how/if the committee can work on this/Whitney

Discussion led us to the idea of Whitney working with Micah Ranquist (from the Inclusion Center) to make a few minute video on invisible disabilities through the Inclusion Center's new video series. The series is expected to be used as PSA's for BCTV. We will then write a press release informing the town about the PSA's and educating them about invisible disabilities.

Motion put forth by Gail to include the Inclusion Center PSA videos to be part of library of disability awareness in the town of Brattleboro. Seconded by Gary, All said aye. Passed unanimously.

Discussion about a majority of people who are homeless having disabilities. Is this a topic for the ADA committee. It was decided that yes, this is a topic for the ADA committee due to their disabilities. Whitney will meet with Groundworks Collaborative and discuss a press release for the two groups together. We would like people to understand that people who are homeless are People first and have disabilities.

(6) Ratify new Bylaws

Motion put forth by Gail to accept by laws as they are now. Gary seconded. All said Aye. Passed unanimously.

New business:

(7) Adequate accessible parking

Discussion on inadequate accessible parking in town. Was decided we will review ADA regulations and discuss this further at next meeting.

One simple way to rectify situation is to use "hoods" on meters when town is particularly busy, the hoods would be used to create additional handicapped parking (different color than for loading zone hoods).

(1) TO DO: Elizabeth will compile a list of 10 sidewalk issues (in the manner outlined by town manager) and will compile list of common snow related accessible issues.

(2) TO DO: Inclusion Center will make a poster for the ADA/abling.

Whitney will make copies or get brochures to give to Krystale

Krystale will contact River Garden to schedule a brown bag lunch date.

(3) TO DO: Gail will write letter for new town clerk.

(4) TO DO: Whitney will meet with Micah and make the film.

Gail will write the press release.

Whitney will meet with Groundworks and discuss a co-press release.

(7) TO DO: Julie will review ADA regulations.