

**COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES**  
**December 2, 2013**  
**MINUTES**

**In Attendance:** Barbara Tennison, Lynn Vaillancourt, Judy Coletta and Jennifer Shaw  
**Building Dept. Liaison:** Eric Erskine  
**Mayor Liaison:** Chris Griffin  
**Meeting Opened:** 6:32 P.M.      **Meeting Adjourned:** 7:32 P.M.  
**Telephone Calls:** No calls.

**ON-GOING/STATUS:**

1. Proposed Community Center/Playground Restrooms status of elevator:  
*Construction on-going. No date set for completion.*
2. Town Hall Accessible Entrance:  
*Barbara Tennison & Jennifer Shaw were invited to take part in the selection process of the architectural firm that will be doing some renovations, as well as constructing an ADA compliant entrance for the town hall. The group met on October 11th to select the final 4 choices. Those choices were forwarded onto the Mayor. Per Chris Griffin, no word yet from the Mayor as to who will be selected to do the work.*
3. Water & Sewer Bldg.: (Old Thayer Library)  
*No update.*
4. Transition Plan (TP):  
*Awaiting feedback from the Mayor as to when the commission can review the plan as well. Mayor Sullivan received the draft of the transition plan back in October via Russ Forsberg.*
5. Funding for a Shading System for the Rock'N Ship Glider at the Highlands Playground:  
*Per Barbara Mello, grant writer; still searching for a vendor to purchase and install the shading system.*
6. Mass Highway's repaving of Route 37:  
*No update.*
7. High School Pool and Rink  
*Per Chris Griffin, the Mayor is still in negotiations.*
8. Daugherty Gym/BEMA:  
*Per Chris Griffin, Tom Whalen is working on doors and ramp for accessibility. The commission again reiterated our concerns to Chris Griffin that the Daugherty Gym is in no condition to be occupied by BEMA. The building does not meet AAB nor ADA code by any stretch and also could in no way ever be used as an emergency shelter for the town until the modifications are done inside and outside of the building.*
9. Community Outreach Mailing:  
*The 2nd outreach write up was included in the Bright Ideas newsletter with the November BELD bill.*

10. Parks and Recreation:  
*Accessible Bus Transportation - No update from Nelson Chin..  
Highlands Playground - Accessible swings still missing their safety harnesses,  
Chris Griffin will follow up with Nelson Chin.*
11. Mobi-Chair/Town Purchase status:  
*The board agreed to purchase the chair and will make recommendations at a later date  
as to where it should be housed.*
12. Charlotte Rose Playground:  
*The wooden barrier surrounding the wood chips is making the playground inaccessible.  
Per Chris Griffin, he will address the issue regarding the barrier with Tom Whalen.  
Per Chris Griffin, a walkway along with parking spaces are to be installed when roadway  
is completed sometime in the spring.*
13. HP Funds-Review of Revenue:  
*Discussed new RMV and Inspector General's office initiative (Nov. 23rd letter) that will  
benefit our town regarding the ticketing of individual's for the fraudulent use of HP  
placards and plates. Chris Griffin will bring the information to the Mayor and will get  
back to us as to how we can assist in rolling out this initiative with the police department  
and the town.*
14. Accommodation for a resident of a privately owned condo.  
*Letter of support was sent to the Condo Association asking for the accommodation.  
Accommodation was granted.*
15. Advertising and recruitment of new board members.  
*Chris Griffin offered to reach out to St. Thomas More and Lynn V. offered to reach out to  
St. Claire's.*
16. Polling Locations - Accessibility  
*Chris Griffin will reach out to Joe Powers to follow up with concerns that the "accessible  
entrance" at the Highlands school was found locked yet again for the November election.  
The commission would like to continue this discussion so that we can guarantee that for  
all future elections that "all" polling places within the town of Braintree will be accessible  
to all.*

**NEXT MEETING WILL BE MONDAY JANUARY 6, 2014**

(BT 12/10/2013)