

Montpelier ADA Committee

March 10, 2020

Subject to review and approval

Attendance: Tom McArdle – ADA Coordinator, Arne McMullen – Recreation Department Director, Cameron Niedermayer - Assistant City Manager, Marty Roberts – Chair, Jack McCullough – City Council Representative, Tina Hagen – Disability Rights.

Introductions and welcome: After introducing themselves, the meeting was called to order by the Chair, Marty Roberts.

Approve agenda – action suggested – members should review and approve the agenda, including the order of the agenda, as well as identifying items to be added under “other business”:

Tom added the perennial conflict with the March meeting date and Town Meeting – to be discussed under other business. As a separate item, the Transit Center issues will be discussed.

Opportunity for public comment: There were no members of the public in attendance.

Discussion of final ADA Transition Plan, status update and next steps (cost estimating, financing, priorities, implementation, etc.): Tom has been tasked with working on this since returning to work. He has met with Steve Twombly and he’s compiled a list of questions for VCIL. Some were a railing that might be too short but lengthening it would bring it into the sidewalk; old fashioned doorknobs but if the doors are always open, does that make a difference. Arne, Alex and Tom also met to review the recommendations for park and recreation facilities. The plan is to develop reliable cost estimates for all of the items listed because the plan only provides “order of magnitude” estimates which are not suitable for budgeting and grant applications.

The biggest issues for the parks are restrooms and parking. The big-ticket item will be the restrooms. Arne mentioned at least one shelter should be accessible.

There are some issues with the Parkapalooza event. Some ways around it could be golf carts or side by side 4 wheelers if an accessible route cannot be constructed or an accessible venue is not available. Staff should be prepared for accommodation requests.

The Tower could be virtually accessible with a Go Pro that people can view.

Kevin Casey had talked about a grant fund available in a previous meeting. It is with Federal funds and there is an environmental review & permit component he’s learned from the library experience since they got one of the grants which can be both costly and very time consuming to properly satisfy. Potential grant issues in the park will be historic & maybe archeological review.

There is an elevator in City Hall that keeps breaking down. A quote for the repair is around \$ 100,000. Cameron mentioned that she’d like to make that a priority since if it breaks down

again, it makes the building non-compliant. Incorporating the recommended accessibility recommendations could be rolled into this project.

Review quarterly meeting dates: The first Tuesday of March is always Town Meeting Day. It was decided to keep the first Tuesday of said month, except for March, which will be the second Tuesday.

Updates from committee members: Arne said that Tom had covered most of his update. Arne will put together a timetable on changes and report to the committee next time.

Review and approve meeting minutes from December 3, 2019: Arne moved to approve the minutes as printed. The motion passed unanimously.

Confirm next meeting date: The next meeting date is June 2, 2020 at 10 AM.

Other business: The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired visited the transit center. Some posts are placed in odd places along the railings. Another issue is there isn't a PA system to announce bus arrivals and departures. There were other issues they had at the site.

Tom asked the committee if the Association should file a grievance. Tom is meeting with the Association tomorrow; he will bring the form and fill it out with them. The grievance form will be posted to the website.

Adjourn: Jack made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Priscilla Fox is the new committee member. There is another potential member that Marty will touch base with again.

Respectfully submitted,

Tami Furry
Recording Secretary