

City of Port Jervis
ADA Committee
Minutes for Meeting May 7, 2015

Present: Carl Hendricks, Jennifer Foster, Annie Foster, Katie Horsham, Melissa Decker & Robin Waizenegger

Absent: Tim Monahan & Jack Farr

Meeting was opened at 6:03 pm by Jennifer Foster

Accessibility Issues: Katie Horsham questioned the building codes with respect to handicapped access aka ADA Compliance with respect to older buildings. It was noted that current codes require any new construction or new improvements to be in compliance with ADA but not any existing structures.

Ms. Horsham cited the closure of the sub-basement access to Bon Secours Hospital as an access issue as the remaining entrances have little or no handicapped parking nearby and/or the nearest entrances have severe inclines from the lots where handicapped parking is present. Carl Hendricks informed the committee that Bon Secours does now have a liaison that attends the Council meetings and that he would make a request of her to review the handicapped accessibility at the hospital.

Review of Proposed Local Law #3: All present read the law and it was noted that the law in its current form has not passed in most part due to the requirements regarding the shoveling of fire hydrants. There was general consensus with examples cited regarding the necessity of the law with respect to the 36 inch width. Mr. Hendricks noted that the success of having people shovel their walkways wider for access is a matter of public education not necessarily enforcement. He noted that this law is going back to the Code Committee for review and possible editing before it is proposed again. Another problem noted is being able to accommodate hydrant clearing when the property owner is disabled or elderly.

Old Business: Mr. Hendricks indicated that the flashing/automated crosswalk lights will be installed shortly at the crosswalk between the Roberta Ginton Medical Office Building and Bon Secours Hospital.

New Business: Annie Foster indicated that there is a problem with a gentleman using an automated wheelchair and having small children ride on it creating a potential dangerous fall potential for the children. Mr. Hendricks noted that this issue has come to the attention of the police and is problematic from an enforcement standpoint.

Annie Foster suggested that for special events a written guideline be developed with respect to necessary requirements for handicapped accessibility such as a handicapped port-a-potty at all event.

Annie Foster noted that the newer curb cuts with the new red materials are a great improvement in wet and cold weather.

There was a question raised regarding Tri-State park on Barclay street and if that park is to opened this year or if improvements were planned. Mr. Hendricks said that he would refer the question to Recreation Director Faggione. It was also noted that West End Beach will not be open this year. Mrs. Waizenegger indicated that the some of the savings were re-allocated to the summer recreation programs which serve a larger percentage of City residents.

Public Comment: None

Next meeting date set for Thursday July 9th at 6:00pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 pm.