

City of Somerville
Commission for Persons with Disabilities
Somerville, MA 02145 617.625.6600 x2059 Voice; 617.808.4851 TTY

Meeting Minutes: October 11, 2022

Roll Call

Holly Simione – Chairperson
Katie Milton - Commissioner
Lian Guertin - Commissioner
Harriette Ranvig -
Pauline Downing
Adrienne Pomeroy – ADA coordinator

Excused for health reasons
Henry Hardy – Associate Commissioner
Bonnie Denis – Commissioner

Andre Marteccini – Kleinfelder Project Manager
Eitan Norman – Kleinfelder Project Manager
Robert Burnham – Kleinfelder
Kim Treacey - City Point Partners
Sofia Eva Clark - City Point Partner

Welcome and Introductions ADA Coordinator Report – Adrienne Pomeroy

Gathering feedback for the ADA Community Survey. This feedback is the type of questions you would like to see the community asked about accessibility. Please email me back that feedback by October 21, 2022. That feedback can also be captured via phone or zoom if you would like to arrange a time.

Working on getting the Accessible Parking Fines Fund document in a more workable format for Braille transcription.

SCPD Chair's Report – RSJ Staff

The Reimagining policing and Public Safety Survey is now live. We would appreciate your input.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1MzHkAf9jvaUtlSDZfoDxV75NaKbljJ6UU6zd-JXCpR0/viewform?edit_requested=true

Approval of Outstanding Minutes Presentations – Holly Simone

Last time we approved minutes was May 2022. Brian sent minutes for September. Not enough commissioners reviewed yet - will add to next month's agenda.

We are looking for minutes for June, July, June

Holly asked Adrienne to facilitate the files stored on Brian's sharepoint site get uploaded to the city's website. These include approved minutes, meeting agendas and meeting materials from 2021 to current.

MBTA Consultants Presentation -

Davis Square ADA Elevator design - Accessibly improvement with a focus on elevators.

Trying to make it easier to find and use the elevators. Focusing on safety.

They are adding stretcher compliant elevators where feasible, as required by the MBTA, who is responsible for maintaining transit facilities and has contracted with the teams who presented today. They are replacing/adding additional elevators, widening the placement of "turnstiles",

An approximately 2-year project. They will work on the project on the College Ave entrance and when that is finished, they will work on the Holland street entrance.

On 9/28/2022 Holly and Adrienne met with City Point Partners and Kleinfelder to discuss this project and provide feedback. Discussed were the following points.

1. This is a "bring up to code and a state of good repair project".
2. This is the only MBTA station that is entirely paved with brick. They are not replacing the brick floors; they will patch only individual bricks that need repair.
3. Door buttons will be reused
4. Wayfinding signage and lighting improvements
5. The City of Somerville is responsible for outside path of travel maintenance, signage, and lighting etc. The MBTA ownership begins at the doors/areas that lead into the station, not the spaces surrounding it, aka walkways, curb cuts.

Adrienne shared that many people are unable to push hard enough or in the exact spot to utilize the door buttons. This is common as the door buttons break frequently. She requested new door buttons. Holly asked for a plan B when a Door button breaks, and the group discussed ADA allows for a max of 15psi for every door. Signage approaching from the station from Meecham Street were requested to help guide persons through the accessible path. None exist now. This would be a City of Somerville responsibility not the MBTA, however the request will be followed up on.

If you have any questions after this meeting regarding the project or would like to sign up for email updates email elevatorprogram@mbta.com . The MBTA project team will get back to you. The MBTA has an Access Team to help with questions and concerns related to transportation.

New business

Discussion about length of commission meetings, the hours, and in-person v. zoom meetings. Starting at 7pm is better for some Commissioners, and holding meetings that are 2 hours in length would be more productive.

Meeting adjourned at 8pm.