



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS**  
*DEPARTMENT of RACIAL and SOCIAL JUSTICE*  
KATJANA BALLANTYNE, MAYOR

**COMMISSION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

**11 June 2024**

**Regularly Monthly Meeting**

**Staff Liaison:**

Adrienne Pomeroy, ADA Coordinator

**Commissioners:**

Holly Simone, Chair

Harriotte Ranvig, Vice Chair

Sheila Tracy, Treasurer

Pauline Downing

Helen Corrigan

Brian C. Postlewaite, Director of Engineering

Nick Altschuller

Laurie Brandt

Murshid Buwembo

Ingrid Schnieder

Mike Shaps

**Not Present:**

Deborah Haber

Ginny Alverson

**Assoc. Commissioners:**

Frank Lee

**CART Provider:**

Cindy Thompson, Partners Interpreting

**Reports:**

**Vice Present Report – Harriotte Ranvig**

***Meeting Norms:***

Working on ways to make communication better

Take our turns

Announce our names before we speak

Please do not use the chat, as it's not accessible to all

Please be on camera if possible.

If you cannot hear us, please let us know.

If you need to leave the meeting, please let us know for quorum purposes.

**Treasurer Report – Sheila Tracy**

MAY

Revenue	12,645.00
Interest	1085.18
	13,730.18

FY Totals (11 months)

Revenue	113,100.00
Interest	8,311.99

121,411.99

Current Balance 258,762.95

FY expenditures to date 66,710.93 (Green Cab O/S)

FY 25 Financial Plan

- For discussion in July (full FY24 receipts and expenditures)
- Estimate receipts for planned projects
- Estimate receipts based on two full fiscal years

It was discussed via a question if we need to spend the fund down as it increases. Sheila explained about having a reserve in place and even with incurring more expenditures, the reserve would remain intact. Helen Corrigan added that it was a healthy amount and should be spent. Harriotte added we have plans to add accessible swings to area parks. Holly added that she wanted to talk about this fund this month because of being more mindful of having a budget for this fund. There would be annual events to be budgeted for, with room for other events and expenditures. Holly shared that she was listening in on the budget hearings around the Accessible Parking Fines Fund and feels strongly about having a report about the funds for the public. There was a comment about access to the funds. Frank suggested correcting the Finance Committee record. Holly suggested codifying the fund in the bylaws, what they were. Brian suggested not doing that.

There was a discussion about correcting the Finance Committee Meeting minutes and making sure the record is accurate. Chair Simone will be reaching out to Director Mastrobuoni this week.

### **Communication, Accessibility – Harriotte Ranvig**

#### **Embosser:**

Relayed that the embosser and cabinet will be at the new RSJ Suite at the tab.

#### **Safe Streets:**

The Safe Streets Network has worked with PTAC to amend an existing ordinance. Harriotte discussed parts of the amendment. Sheila asked a question about the interaction of ADA regulations and plan with ordinances. Brian stated that the ADA Transition Plan in as a reference document and the ordinance can be revised as the Transition Plan and VisionPlan are revised. Chair Simone asked Brian Postlewaite to simplify the Bicycle Lane section.

Chair Simone shared the ordinance has gone through committee and is on the agenda for a final vote on June 13, 2024. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

### **General HP Parking**

- Atrius Health – Helen Corrigan
- Assembly Parking Meters – none accessible – Murshid, overall height meters
- Who enforces HP spots in private lots?

### **Chair Report – Holly Simone**

Accessible Trails – Letter Reading

October – National Employment Disability Employment Month Event

Scholarship Reception – Chair Simone gave a report of the awards ceremony.

Accessible Swings – on hold. PSUF will be coming to July Meeting

Remote versus In Person Meetings – a lot of advantage to having in person, remote is an option but in person is recommended. Chair Simone opened the discussion about changing the meeting time in order to encourage more in person participation.

The conclusion from the discussion is that starting at 6pm would be easier and on a Wednesday or Thursday evening as opposed to Tuesday. The SCPD will discuss this more next meeting.

### **Disability Pride Discussion**

#### **7/10 – How to Train the Dragon – West Branch**

1:30 – 3:30 pm

#### **7/11 – Flag Raising at City Hall**

5pm – 7pm

#### **7/13 – ArtBeat**

11 am – 6pm

#### **7/24 – COA Pizza Movie Day – CODA + Discussion**

#### **7/27 – Family Day at West Library**

9 – 1pm

#### **7/29 – Laura Author Event – West Library**

7 – 9 pm

#### **COMMS Meeting:**

#### **PSA for July**

Ingrid

Mike

Pauline

Nick

Motion: Chair Simone motioned to to put an additional \$2,000 in the budget for Disability Pride Month Activities, Pauline Downing Seconded

Vote: 10 in favor, 1 abstain, motion passed.

Motion: Chair Simone motioned to adjourn the meeting, Sheila Tracey seconded.

Vote: 11 in favor, motion passed

**Meeting adjourned 9:07 pm**

