



**TOWN OF MILFORD**  
**COMMISSION ON DISABILITY**  
52 Main Street, Milford, Massachusetts 01757

Harold S. Rhodes, Chairman  
haroldrhodes@comcast.net 508-473-8728



On Wednesday, November 18, 2015, a meeting of the Milford Commission on Disability (MCOD) was held at the Milford Senior Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by H. Rhodes, Chairman.

**Members Present:** Harold Rhodes (Chairman), Jennifer Walsh (Vice-Chairman), Susan Clark, Dino DeBartolomeis, and Teresa Graceffa. A quorum of the membership was in attendance.

**Members Unable to Attend:** Julie Gonzalez and Margaret Myatt. **Guests:** Mike Nicholson.

**Membership:** The Commission has two vacancies. The Commission, with deep regrets, accepted the resignation of Fran O'Neill. The Commission thanks Fran for his many years of devoted service to the Town of Milford/

**Minutes:** Minutes from the meeting held September 16, 2015 were accepted unanimously as written on a motion by J. Walsh and seconded by T. Graceffa.

**Treasurer's Report:** The following balances were reported by the Chairman.

1. HP Fines Account: \$1,500
2. General Fund Account: \$2,056.89 Budget Remaining. There is outstanding purchase order for approximately \$960 for on handicap bench to be paid from this account.
3. General Gift Account: \$2082.84

The Treasurer's Report was accepted unanimously on a motion by S. Clark and seconded by D. DeBartolomeis

**Accessibility – Milford Community:** H. Rhodes reviewed the plans to (a) improve the accessibility of Lake Louisa and the Milford Upper Charles Trail and (b) bring public transportation to Milford. H. Rhodes updated the membership on the the Town Administrator's plan to bring in an outside consultant to develop the Town of Milford's ADA Transition Plan. J. Walsh indicated that she would take the lead in planning the Greater Milford Area Abilities Expo and to develop the Greater Milford Area Guide to Special Needs Services. The remaining programs to improve community accessibility discussed (see attached).

**Accessibility – Business:**

H. Rhodes distributed the updated Business Accessibility Report (attached), compiled in conjunction with the Milford Building Commissioner.

Other. H. Rhodes will discuss with Town Administrator change in Article 27 By-Law to update Commission membership composition.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, January 20, 7:00 p.m. at the Milford Senior Center.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:45p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harold S. Rhodes, Chairman

CC: Town Administrator; Finance Director; Building Commissioner



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**Town of Milford Community Accessibility Report**

	Project	Commission Member
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Watch for Handicap Parking abuse (call 508-473-1113)</li><li>• Commission review of outside accessibility for business license renewal</li><li>• Suggest content for MCOB Blog Site</li><li>• Watch for sidewalk obstructions of any type: overgrown weeds; low hanging flags; cracks in sidewalk, etc.</li></ul>	EVERYONE
2	Organize Transportation Planning	Harold
3	Assist Town Administrator in ADA Transition Plan for Existing Town Facilities	Harold
4	Track and report on handicap parking monthly results	Harold
5	Develop Community Health Improvement Program Grant Writing	Harold
6	Milford Area Humanitarian Coalition Membership and Support	Harold
7	Educate Milford business and medical community about ADA responsibilities	Harold
8	Develop Greater Milford Area Guide to Special Needs Services	Jennifer
9	Support Greater Milford Alternatives Advisory Council	Jennifer
10	Manage MCOB Participation in Senior Center Expo (October, 2016)	Jennifer
11	Coordinate implementation of accessible trail improvement at Lake Louisa and Milford Upper Charles Trail	Margaret
12	Develop plan for FM Hearing Support and Closed Captioning for Room 3	Margaret
13	Develop content for MCOB blog site ( <a href="https://milfordcommissionondisability.wordpress.com/">https://milfordcommissionondisability.wordpress.com/</a> )	Margaret
14	Manage MCOB Web Site and Develop MCOB Newsletter	Margaret
15	Investigate holding Greater Milford Areas Abilities Expo	Teresa
16	Manage Business Accessibility Site Review data	Teresa
17	Manage Senior Health and Programs	Sue
18	Develop Milford Disabilities Census	Dino



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**Town of Milford Business Accessibility Report**

1. 66 School Street (November 15, 2015). Farmers Market at Stacey School. Comment to Farmer's Market organizer: allowed, with stipulation, that difficult to traverse areas will be mitigated, if necessary.
2. 235 East Main Street (November 16, 2015). Added above ground tank. No comment.
3. 308 Main Street (October 21, 2015). Current Robertson Flooring Building to become physician's patient office building. Comments to the Planning Board:
  - a. Note 21 on Sheet C7-0 indicates 'all entrances to be handicapped accessible'. However, as shown on Sheet C-3.0, the route from walkway to accessible entrance on the northwest side of the building involves stairs. Also, an egress route on the southeast side of the building involves stairs between the accessible exit and the grass area. This leaves the building with only one means of accessible egress.

If more than one means of egress is required under 780 CMR (The Mass State Building Code) from the accessible space or element, then each space or element should be served by not less than two accessible means of egress. Therefore, it is requested that both, or if not feasible at least one, of the two routes mentioned above be made accessible. (Mass AAB 521CMR 20.11.1 & 20.11.2)
  - b. There appears to be no safe pedestrian access from public sidewalks to the accessible main entrance, the only access being via ingress/egress traffic lanes on Chapin Street. It is requested that safe, accessible route(s) be provided from public sidewalk(s) to the accessible main building entrance. (Mass AAB 521CMR 20.2)
4. 396 East Main Street (October 21, 2015). Current Hickey Wine & Spirits Building. Comments to the Planning Board:

The site plan (per table) proposes 88 parking spaces including two accessible spaces. However, the Application Form indicates "96 existing spaces, 94 proposed". Either way, it is presumed that the parking lot is being reconfigured, possibly resurfaced and re-striped. If so, then the number of accessible spaces should be increased to four with compliant access aisles, signage and accessible route(s). (Mass AAB 521CMR 23.00)
5. 1 Countryside (October 21, 2015). Current Geriatric Authority of Milford facility. Comment to Planning Board:

As I understand, the main lot work area currently contains 59 regular parking spaces. In addition, there are 4 existing HP spaces at the main entrance (outside the work area) to meet ADA/AAB requirements for this main parking area, along with an additional 13 existing regular spaces near the main entrance.

6. 1 Countryside (October 21, 2015). Current Geriatric Authority of Milford facility. Comment to Planning Board:

As I understand, the main lot work area currently contains 59 regular parking spaces. In addition, there are 4 existing HP spaces at the main entrance (outside the work area) to meet ADA/AAB requirements for this main parking area, along with an additional 13 existing regular spaces near the main entrance.

As a result, the existing complete main parking area including the work area plus spaces near the main entrance totals 76 spaces (59 + 4 HP).

Applicant proposes changing the main lot work area from 59 to 121 spaces. Along with the above mentioned 17 (13 + 4) spaces, the proposed total main parking area serving the main entrance becomes 138 parking spaces. (See attached 'Countryside-Proposed\_01.JPG')

Either way, be it the 59 to 121 space change within the work area alone or the 76 to 138 space change for the entire main lot, 2010ADA-208.2 and Mass AAB-23.2.1 both specify a minimum of five HP spaces with access aisles for the resulting main parking area.

Therefore, it is requested that at least one additional HP parking space with access aisle be added in an appropriate location near the main entrance as part of this change.

7. 364-366 Main Street – New Medical Office Building (September 16, 2015)

a. Comments to Planning Board

1. The new entrance off Main Street crosses an existing sidewalk. There is no detail covering accessible sidewalk curb cuts at the entrance.
2. There is a utility pole to be relocated from the new entrance. The new location should provide ADA/AAB-compliant sidewalk clearance. This might be a matter between the Town and National Grid; not the applicant.
3. The HP parking access aisles are not striped on the plan.
4. It is unclear whether there is a step between the access aisles and the walk. If a step, the plan should include curb cut detail for the access aisles.
5. Additionally, perhaps outside of this project, the sidewalk at the corner of this project, while technically outside of the work area, is currently impassable for a wheelchair user because of the signal post. When the Commission expressed concern over this deficiency a while ago, we were told MassDOT was going to upgrade the intersection and it would be addressed at that time. Not knowing when MassDOT might get around to fixing this, would it be unreasonable to ask this applicant if they would be willing to add a paved (hopefully concrete) ~40" section around the back side of the signal pole.
6. There are other deficiencies at this corner (no curb cut for the Main St. crosswalk and no tactile plates), but these are definitely beyond the scope of this project.

b. Requests to Developer

1. The site plan indicates the appropriate number of handicap parking spaces, per the building code. Would it be possible to include an additional four handicap parking spaces to accommodate additional persons with disabilities?

2. The site plan shows the widths of exterior walkways at 36 inches, per the building code. Would it be possible to widen the exterior walkways (where possible) to 42 inches (or greater), again to accommodate additional persons with disabilities?
  3. For the handicap parking areas, would it be possible to increase the lighting? At times, persons with low-vision will come to the building; additional lighting is of great benefit.
  4. Can the site plan be updated to include the following note: *"All public building entrances are handicap accessible."*?
  5. Would it be possible to add to the site plan documentation the following: *"This site plan conforms with the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design."*?
8. 21 Main Street (September 16, 2015). Office Building. According to (L. Dunkin on 9/14/2015), *"This was reviewed in February of 2014 and approved in March 2014."*
  9. Milford Regional Medical Center (September 16, 2015). New Facility. According to the Massachusetts Office on Disability, the room signage does not comply with 521 CMR 41.6 (Finish and Contrast). **Building Commissioner to review entire facility. Building Commission issued Certificate of Occupancy.**
  10. Milford Regional Medical Center (September 16, 2015). Existing Facility. **Building Commissioner to review entire facility.**
  11. 64 Dilla Street – Milford Water Company (September 16, 2015). **Building Commissioner to review.**
    - a. In the rear of building, the HP signage appears to need updating to conform with current signage requirements.
    - b. In the rear of building, it appears that the cross slope of the the HP parking spot to left facing the building exceeds requirements.
    - c. In the rear of building, it appears that the ramp entrance to the building might exceed requirements.
    - d. In the rear of building, it appears that the width of the HP spots is below requirements.
    - e. The pull weight of any of the outside doors was not reviewed.
  12. 20 Claflin Street – Blaire House (July 15, 2015). **Building Commissioner to review.**
    - a. Will the value of the improvements exceed 30% of the current assessed value of \$1,692,900 (or \$508,000)?
    - b. Has the accurate number of required handicap parking spots been calculated?
    - c. Comments to Planning Board
      1. The site plan be updated such that the accessible spaces and access aisles be dimensioned.
      2. The site plan be updated such that the HP signage and detail be noted. (If signage is to be at head of the accessible spaces, vehicle-resistant bollard mounting should be indicated.)
      3. The site plan be updated to indicate the location, width, location of tactile warning plates, and curb cuts, as required, of all sidewalks.

- d. Requests to be made to Developer:
1. Can the number of HP spaces be increased to 8, of which 2 will be van accessible, given the likely vehicle traffic to this facility?
  2. Can the location of the HP spaces should be as close to the front door as possible?
  3. Can the front door consist of two door openings, each 48", with push button control for door openings, given the likely individuals who will visit this facility?
  4. Can the site plan be updated to include the following note: *"All public building entrances are handicap accessible."*?
  5. Can the site plan be updated to include the following note: *"This site plan conforms with the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design"*?
12. Deer Street / Rear Cedar Street (June 2, 2015). Potential Office Building. Extensive review required.
13. 159 East Main Street. (May/19/2015). **Building Commissioner to review**. New location for World Gym. Change of use. Public area. New Certificate of Occupancy required. Number and location of handicap parking spaces.
14. 91 Medway Road (Kohl's). Missing HP signage (5/19/2015). ~~Building Commissioner to review.~~ **Fixed.**
15. 22 Beaver Street (Burger King). Missing HP signage and ramp violation (5/19/2015). ~~Building Commissioner to review.~~ **Fixed.**
16. 186 East Main Street (Quarry Stop & Shop). Missing HP parking spots (11/18/14); Fafard to respond end of this week 12/15/14. Also, missing HP post and signage. ~~Building Commissioner to review.~~ **Fixed.**
17. 120-128 Medway Street (Kmart Plaza / Multi-Business Use) – Amended Site Plan with Special Permit. (Waiting Site Plans). MCOD Comment:
- a. Comments to Planning Board Sheet
1. Sheet C-2, there is no evidence of an accessible curb cut at the intersection of the proposed crosswalk and sidewalk. It is requested that an accessible curb cut be added at the intersection of crosswalk and sidewalk to insure an accessible route between the proposed 20,100 SF retail building, the accessible parking along the route, and the existing building.
  2. Note the difference between R7-8 signage as depicted in Detail 6 vs Detail 8 on Sheet D-7. Please ensure that Detail 8 version is clearly specified for actual use, with wording, *"Violators Will Be Fined."*
  3. Additionally, on Sheet D-8/Detail 7 for detectable warning pavers, they specify color of the pavers to be charcoal or dark gray. The pavers should be high contrast (yellow, orange, etc.) Dark gray is not high contrast.

- b. Requests to be made to Developer
    1. Can the number of HP spaces be increased, given the likely vehicle traffic to this facility?
    2. Can the location of the HP spaces be as close to the front door as possible?
    3. Can the site plan be updated to include the following note: *"All public building entrances are handicap accessible."*?
    4. Can the site plan be updated to include the following note: *"This site plan conforms with the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design"*?
18. 296 Main Street (Junior's Restaurant). ~~Building Commissioner to review.~~ **Fixed.**
- a. Will the value of the improvements exceed 30% of the current assessed value?
  - b. Does the change to a restaurant constitute *"change of use"*?
  - c. Is there a safe, accessible route from the two proposed accessible parking spaces in the rear lot since the person must travel for ~100' in a traffic lane and must traverse an approximate 2' rise in elevation along the way?
  - d. Is the ramp compliant?
  - e. If the only means of emergency egress from the rear exit will be via the exterior stair, then is there sufficient exterior landing to enable a person in a wheelchair to safely exit the building onto that landing?
  - f. The one un-dimensioned access aisle appears to be less than required width for van accessibility. It is requested that the accessible spaces and access aisle be dimensioned to assure conformity.
19. 121 Depot Street (Royal Buddha). Will 30% trigger impact project development? Has site plan been presented? **Building Commissioner to review. Will upstairs be for public use? Has a variance been requested?**
20. Additional violations of AAB. None.
21. Other new construction in Milford. None.
22. New Temporary Certificates of Occupancy. None.