



BARNSTABLE DISABILITY COMMISSION

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Paul Logan, Chair
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Linda McKinney
Sheila Mulcahy
Eileen Elias
Inna Podgornaya
MacKenzie Bonaiuto

Barnstable Disability Commission Minutes August 20, 2025 via Zoom from 10 am to 12 pm

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Members present: Paul Logan; Chair, John Lundborn (joined at 10:13 am); Vice Chair, Patty Ericson – Taylor, Inna Podgornaya (joined at 11:03 am), Eileen Elias, Lori Gillen, MacKenzie Bonaiuto, Linda McKinney, and Tammy Cunningham, Deputy Director of HR and ADA Coordinator.

Others Present:, Brian LaCroix, Parking Manager and Transportation Coordinator, Cre Dorey and Henry Parent, Cape Cod Community College – Project Forward

Members Excused: Sheila Mulcahy

Public Comment: None

Minutes of July 16, 2025 – Linda McKinney moved to approve the minutes of July 16, 2025, MacKenzie Bonaiuto seconded. Unanimous.

Speaker – Cre Dorey and Henry Parent of Cape Cod Community College – Project Forward attended to provide information on the program. Project Forward provides programs to students in the areas of retail, childcare, healthcare, agriculture/facilities, hospitality, and culinary arts. Students participate in the programs and get a certificate after two years in the program. The students that attend the program have a disability. Approximately 70 students are enrolled in the program.

The program works with students being introduced to all career areas and then selecting their area of focus at the end. Most students select culinary arts working at Cape Cod Community College and Family Table Collaborative. 87% of the students are working. It is not a matriculated program, so it is not free. They added that not enough communities provide support to assist the students.

Financial Report/Grant Request from DLC/Strategy for Grants - \$28,349.41 is the current balance. Eileen Elias will be putting together grant criteria to document the process guidelines and purpose. Tammy Cunningham will send Eileen the disability commission objective and charter information on purpose of the BDC. The primary criteria required to support funding of a program is the need for the organization to provide direct supports and services to residents of Barnstable. This criterion is to be supplied when reviewing requests for funding of programs.

Local Access Issues –

The accessible parking issues at Whole Foods has been resolved.

A complaint has been filed with the Architectural Access Board against BJ's Wholesale Club for continuing to be in violation with their accessible parking signage.

North Street Parking Lot – A brief discussion was held on this parking lot and obstacles that exist to address the accessible parking and necessary repairs. There are multiple private owners in addition to the Town. The largest owner of the lot is Puritan Clothing. Paul Logan stated he has spoken with the owner of Puritan Clothing. It is not advised that handicap parking signage exist in the center of the lot as this will present challenges when trying to plow during a snow event. There are viable options in front of the space occupied by Morgan Stanley.

Lori Gillen stated she is working with Cape Cod Hospital as their phone system does not support individuals with hearing loss.

Paul Logan stated the complaint against the State Office Building on North Street is still pending.

Report from the Posters Subcommittee – John Lundborn provided a draft of the accessible parking do's and don'ts. Lori Gillen suggested changing the logo to the wheelchair in motion. MacKenzie Bonaiuto made a motion to approve the design, John Lundborn seconded. It was suggested that in addition to posters that door sign size handouts be made to have for distribution in parking and at events. Unanimous.

Report from the Scholarships Subcommittee –

Considering the information that was shared on the Project Forward program, it was discussed possibly adding an additional scholarship to support Project Forward students.

BDC Awareness Publicity (Events/Fairs/Shows) -

Lori Gillen suggested not attending the Unity Day or International Day in the future.

The ADA Day at Long Pasture was very good.

It was requested that other members participate in attending publicity events for 2026.

Safety Day is September 24th from 10 am to 2 pm. Patty will be attending. It was commented that date is a religious holiday. Stand Down for Veterans is on October 17th.

Paul Logan commented that the Rotary Club Home and Garden show is returning to BHS in 2026. The Commission will need to decide if it is worth the exposure and expense of attending.

MacKenzie Bonaiuto stated CORD can collect outreach data.

ADA Self – Evaluation and Transition Plan update – No update.

Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair –

Materials and equipment to attend publicity events was discussed. Materials being considered for purchase are 6 foot tables, pop up tent, and two chairs. It was determined to put the purchase on hold to pursue if the equipment could be borrowed.

Motion to adjourn by MacKenzie Bonaiuto at 12:03 pm, Lori Gillen seconded.
Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy L. Cunningham

**Objective of the Barnstable Disability Commission
is to advise and guide the Town of Barnstable and the general public regarding
issues of accessibility in accordance with the American's With Disabilities Act (ADA).**