



## **Town of Hudson**

### **Commission on Disabilities**

78 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749

Tel: (978) 562-2948

Email: [phelinek@townofhudson.org](mailto:phelinek@townofhudson.org)

### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **August 15, 2023**

*Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023 extending the remote meeting provisions of March 12, 2020, Executive Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, this meeting of the Hudson Commission on Disabilities was conducted via remote participation.*

**Meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM by Chair Andrea Erickson**

**Roll Call: Andrea Erickson (Chair), George Luoto, Sheryl Marrazzo, Justin Graceffa**

**Staff: Pam Helinek, Kristina Johnson**

**Members of the Public: Frank Noyes**

#### **Meeting with MWRTA**

**Present: Jim Nee, Transit Administrator; Emily Van Dewoestine, Director of Fixed Route, Intermodal, & Marketing**

Emily Van Dewoestine gave a presentation about Catch Connect, a Micro Transit Service now available in Hudson. It functions like a public version of Uber or Lyft. Users can schedule a ride and pay using an app, or can do so over the phone. Rides go to grocery stores, malls, and other popular destinations including a bus stop in Marlborough. The vehicles can handle wheelchairs of all sizes and drivers are trained to secure the wheelchairs and to help riders in and out of the vehicle. The cost is \$2 per passenger.

Pam Helinek will email Commissioners information about using the service, and will post the information on the Town website.

#### **ADA Transition Plan Implementation**

No progress

#### **Community Concerns**

No new concerns have been reported.

#### **Open Space and Recreation Plan**

Pam Helinek will distribute links to the online survey. The consultants will be conducting site visits to Town-owned open space and recreation properties the morning of Friday August 25<sup>th</sup>. Sheryl Marrazzo hopes to attend some of the site visits. Anyone else interested in attending should contact Pam Helinek.

#### **Parking Study**

Kristina Johnson reported that the study is wrapping up after several meetings of the steering committee, a public forum, and round tables with the business community and with Town staff. The online survey is still open. Pam Helinek will send the link to the survey.



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**Other Business**

- Kristina Johnson gave an update on the Armory project.
- Pam Helinek gave an update on the 62 Packard Street affordable housing project.

**Minutes** – Andrea Erickson moved to accept the minutes from June 13, 2023, vote 4-0-0.

**Adjournment** –Andrea Erickson moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 AM.