

Bridgewater Disability Commission Agenda
Wednesday July 28th- 2:30 pm
Bridgewater Senior Center
10 Wally Krueger Way
Bridgewater, Ma 02324

Members:

Dave Frim- Chair
Lorraine Carrozza- Vice Chair
Henry Goldsmith- Secretary
Karen Aicher
Anna Nakouzzi

Associate Members:

Gloria Lemieux
Zach Chipman

Planned Speaker/ Guest:

Bridgewater Police Chief Chris Delmonte

Call to Order- 2:30 pm

Bridgewater Senior Center- In person Meeting!

Introduce Special Guest: Bridgewater Police Chief Chris Delmonte

The Bridgewater Disability Commission would like to develop a working relationship with the Bridgewater Police

Department leading to the betterment of the community. Disability Commission members will be prepared to discuss positive ways the Disability Commission can work in conjunction with the Bridgewater Police Department. Postponed from the June Meeting, this will be an open discussion.

One suggested topic:

The reopening of the Academy Building, the Library, the new and busy coffee shop, the Juice Bar, Music Alley, etc. has lead to increased foot traffic in the downtown Bridgewater area, around the Green. Many Bridgewater residents would like to easily and safely cross the street from curbside parking to enjoy sitting in the park! Cars drive very quickly in the downtown area, seemingly with little regards for pedestrians in the crosswalks. Though there has certainly been police presence in the downtown area, would it be possible to increase the visibility of police as a deterrent? Would several speed bumps in the downtown area be recommended to slow down traffic?

Topics Today:

1. Update: ADA Coordinator for the Town of Bridgewater. Mandatory publicly posted grievance procedures. Newly discovered issues by Karen Aicher; Karen will update the Disability Commission on the work that she has done on the town's behalf.

2. Update: Ideas for an internship that would serve the Disability Commission and possibly the Elder Affairs Commission and the Senior Center. Karen will share ideas that she has put together.

3. A resident of Waterford Village Apartments, located on Plymouth Street in Bridgewater, has requested the assistance of the Disability Commission. The issue affects and limits the mobility not only of herself, but all residents of Waterford Village, BSU, and all local residents of Bridgewater. The resident of Waterford Village walks with the aide of a walker. She walks often to Roche Brothers and back, utilizing the sidewalks running along Plymouth street. She has suffered through several falls, mentioning potholes, cracks, uneven sidewalks, overgrown vegetation along the route. She also discussed the sidewalk approaching CVS as impassable.

In advance of the July Disability Commission Meeting, I walked Plymouth Street, from Waterford Village to Roche Brothers on the Spring Street location. I also walked the sidewalk located on Plymouth Street adjacent to CVS. As described, Plymouth Street sidewalks are a tough walk. These sidewalks are heavily used during the school year by BSU students, by residents of Waterford, and by many walkers and joggers in general. Sadly, the sidewalks are not maintained and a disgrace.

According to Waterford Village resident, she spoke with Town Manager 3 years ago with little satisfaction.

Resident plans to attend the next Town Council Meeting which will be held on Tuesday August 3rd at 7 pm. It will be helpful to this cause if several Disability Commission members are able to attend this meeting. The Citizen's forum comes near the beginning of the meeting. The Council does not give responses during the meeting! They hear comments and concerns from residents.

4. Update: Marathon Park Disability Parking signage. Two signs in place!! Thank you to Charlie Simonds and Mike Dutton. Update on sidewalk accessibility to Marathon Park gate. Dave Frim will update several new informational facts.

5. Update: Lorraine C. will update plans to work with BHA beginning in the fall.

New ideas and Goals:

Open Discussion:

Next Meeting:

Wednesday August 25th at 2:30 pm