



Town of Burlington Disability Access Commission (BDAC)

Regular Meeting

March 24, 2025

12:00 pm Grandview Farm 1st floor Tavern , 55 Center Street

RECEIVED

By Town Clerk's Office at 1:55 pm, Apr 28, 2025

The Disability Access Commission (DAC) meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of the month at noon in the Tavern at Grandview Farms, unless otherwise noted on the town calendar and or current agenda.

BDAC Members Present:

- ★ Jack Cunha, DAC Chairman
- ★ Linda Cunha
- ★ Bunny Ferguson
- ★ Dominic Marcellino
- ★ Mike Espejo, Select Board Representative
- ★ Bob Cunha, School Department Representative

BDAC Members Not Present:

- ★ Kenny Tigges

BDAC Support Staff:

- ★ Christopher Hanafin, ADA Coordinator
- ★ Jennifer Goldsmith, Recorder

Guest:

- ★ Kelly Lehman, Parks & Recreation Assistant Director & Emma Andrus, CTRS Therapeutic Recreation Specialist

Meeting called to order at 12:01 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

★ **Minutes:**

December 2024 minutes are up for approval.

Motion moved by Linda Cunha and seconded by Mike Espejo to approve the December 2024 minutes. The Commission approves the motion unanimously.

★ **Recreation Department - Therapeutic Recreation update & request:**

Kelly Lehman, Parks & Recreation Assistant Director & Emma Andrus, CTRS Therapeutic Recreation specialist came to thank the Commission for its continued support and shared how the DAC's financial contributions have significantly reduced the cost burden for families participating in their programs. The Specialist presented a wish list of programs for which they are seeking the Commission's support in the upcoming year. The proposed programs included: Inclusion iCan Bike: \$12,950; Inclusion Services: \$5,000; Therapeutic Horseback Riding: \$4,800; Sneaker Prom: \$2,500; Sensory Trailer: \$25,000 (with the expectation that the remaining cost would be covered by the town and/or grant funding). After discussion, the Commission decided to fund all programs except the iCan Bike program at this time.

A motion was made to approve the following allocations: \$12,300 for: Inclusion Services (\$5,000); Therapeutic Horseback Riding (\$4,800); Sneaker Prom (\$2,500); \$25,000 for the purchase of a sensory trailer, with the following stipulations: The Commission's name must appear in large letters on the trailer as a sponsor. Approval is conditional upon the recreation department funding the remaining half of the trailer cost. The recreation department must secure this funding by June 1, 2025. If the funds are not secured by that date, the department may return to the Commission for re-approval, provided the Handicap Parking Fine Fund can support the expenditure.



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Motion made by Jack Cunha and seconded by Bunny Ferguson to approve the \$12,300 for the above-listed services and \$25,000 for the sensory trailer under the stated conditions. The motion was approved unanimously by the Commission.

★ School Department:

Bob Cunha An update was provided to the Commission regarding the various school building projects currently underway around town. As part of the MSMS Field Restoration Project, a natural terrace seating area will be constructed, which will also be accessible via a walkway. Once the project is underway, the Commission may revisit the discussion to determine whether they would like to contribute funds to support the project in the future.

★ Last minute new/old business:

After thoughtful consideration, the Commission has approved Dominic Marcellino for full membership. Dominic is a Vietnam veteran and a triple amputee, as well as the President and founding member of Disabled and Limbless Veterans, Inc. He is a well-known and respected figure within the community. Dominic will be replacing Tom Carlson, who has dedicated many years of service to the Commission. The Commission extends its deepest thanks to Tom for his commitment and contributions to our community.

A motion was made by Bunny Ferguson and seconded by Jack Cunha to accept Tom Carlson's retirement from the Disability Access Commission and to appoint Dominic Marcellino to full membership. Roll Call Vote: Jack Cunha – Yes ; Bunny Ferguson – Yes; Linda Cunha – Yes; Mike Espejo – Yes ; Bob Cunha – Yes

The motion was approved unanimously.

★ Handicap Parking Fine Fund:

As of 03/24/2025 After approved allotted funds the handicap parking fine is \$94,697.12.

★ Adjourn:

Jack Cunha made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mike Espejo. The Commission approves the motion unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 1:13 pm

Submitted by,

Jennifer Goldsmith

Jennifer Goldsmith
BDAC recording clerk