



# Town of Burlington Disability Access Commission (BDAC)

## Regular Meeting

June 16

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

**RECEIVED**

*By Town Clerk's Office at 3:20 pm, Sep 15, 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

### **BDAC Members Not Present:**

- ★ Bob Cunha, School Department Representative

### **BDAC Support Staff:**

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

*Meeting called to order at 12:04 pm*

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **★ Minutes:**

April 2025 minutes are up for approval.

Motion moved by Jack Cunha and seconded by Bunny Ferguson to approve the April 2025 minutes. The Commission approves the motion unanimously.

#### **★ Burlington School Department representative updates/request:**

N/A

#### **★ ADA Accessibility Survey and grant submission:**

The Recreation department is applying for a \$250,000 grant from the Mass Office on Disability for Overlook Park. Park revamp includes accessible elements like swings, walkways, trails. The ADA Coordinator signed a letter of support for this grant. A grant for an ADA accessibility survey for the town was submitted. The last survey was in 2018, and they are supposed to be done every seven years. The town administrator said regardless of grant they will find a way to fund it if necessary as it needs to be done.

#### **★ Last minute new/old business:**

- ★ Christopher Hanafin had a discussion with Kelly Lehman from the Recreation Department about the accessible park in Waltham. Its overwhelming popularity and is sought after. The Recreation department is trying to do something similar with Simonds Park in hopes to make the entire park accessible to include through the tree lines. Parking is a major issue. The Recreation department is having an arborist assess the tree's health to continue to maintain a safe canopy.



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- ★ DAC members wanted to continue to address handicap parking discrepancies within town. To continue to enforce not only those that are parking illegally but work to ensure all spots are within regulations.
- ★ Therapeutic Recreation Sensory Trailer: \$25,000 earmarked for the sensory trailer is still available. The rec department needs to reapply for the funding beach; the project wasn't approved by the initial deadline. The sensory trailer is intended to provide a mobile calming space for individuals with sensory overload, potentially at locations like club simons and events on the common. It would be air conditioned and staffed to provide appropriate support.

#### ★ Concerned citizen discussion:

Elizabeth Grace joined the commission meeting via telephone. Elizabeth wanted to bring up some issues to the commission. She is not pleased that she is not able to participate via video conference and would like to see that changed. The commission is within the legal parameters with its meetings and meets in an ADA Accessible venue and it is not required to offer fully remote meetings as confirmed by the town's legal council. Elizabeth expressed her interest in being on the commission. The commission let her know that they are currently not looking for members. Some concerns around town that she wanted to bring to the attention of the commission were that in the winters the plows move all the snow into the handicap parking spaces on town property. Mr. Hanafin said that he would get the DPW and Recreation department to put an end to this if it is in fact happening. Elizabeth also stated that the paved pathway around the gazebo is sinking in and very dangerous for wheel chairs. Mr. Hanafin stated he would speak with the recreation department to address this issue. Elizabeth Grace left the meeting at 12:46 pm after she had completed her discussion.

#### ★ Handicap Parking Fine Fund:

As of 06/10/2025 After approved allotted funds the handicap parking fine is \$59,207.18

#### ★ Adjourn:

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

Meeting adjourned at 12:52 pm

Submitted by,

*Jennifer Goldsmith*

Jennifer Goldsmith  
BDAC recording clerk