

City of Lowell Disability Commission

Meeting Thursday August 13, 2026

Members present

Sebastian Nash, Ron Lassman, Assistant City Solicitor Olivia Hart-Paulson, Erica Harvey, Joanna Turcotte, and Chris Green

Meeting opened at 6:05 pm

Motion to approve April 9, 2026 , Meeting Minutes

Motion: Erica Harvey, 2nd Joanna Turcotte

Motion Passes

Friends of the Commission Program

Jade Cerventes was not present at meeting will attend the next meeting we hope to see her again once the school season begins No items to report.

Yearly Disability Commission position elections.

The yearly positions of the Disability Commission was discussed among the Commission Members and all positions are unopposed.

Chairperson, Sebastian Nash, Nominated by Ron Lassman, 2nd by Chris Green, Vote Unanimous

Associate Chairperson, Erica Harvey, Nominated by Chris Green, 2nd by Sebastian Nash, Vote Unanimous.

Treasure, Ron Lassman, Nominated by Erica Harvey, 2nd by Joanna Turcotte, Vote Unanimous.

Clerk, Chris Green, Nominated by Sebastian, Nash, 2nd by Erica Harvey, Vote Unanimous.

Sorinson Services Contract

The yearly contract between the City of Lowell and Sorinson Services was signed and the Commission has asked that Atty Olivia Hart-Paulson provide a copy for the Commission.

Motion to Accept Report, Sebastian Nash, 2nd Chris Green. Vote unanimous

Gage Park Swings

Commissioner Turcotte brought this item for discussion there has been a long-standing issue with the accessibility of swings at the Gage Park playground and at the New Sponge Park recently updated. According to Commissioner Turcotte there are swings that do not have harness (no swings at all) to securely fasten a child with disabilities for safety.

Commissioner Green mentioned how we had discussed getting a list of playgrounds throughout the city that may need upgrades for accessible swings and that the Commission had discussed purchasing some for the playgrounds.

There had been a general discussion in April about possibly compiling a list of playgrounds with needed swings and other items. Ms. Yovani Baez was present at the meeting, and the Commission has asked to Atty Paulson to speak to Ms Baez about possibly creating this needs list. Hopefully this will happen in September.

Motion by Ron Lassman to accept report, 2nd by Erica Harvey, motion Unanimous

Handicap Parking spots at newly opened Sponge Park

Commissioner Turcotte brought up that while her family went to enjoy the newly installed Sponge Park in Centralville it was difficult to get to as there no assigned Handicap parking spots making it a long walk.

Commissioner Green officered to call the City Managers Office and ask if there is a solution that could be made. He will update after this conversation and report the information in the September meeting.

Motion to accept report by Joanna Turcotte, 2nd by Chris Green

Motion passes unanimously.

Special Olympics Payment.

Commissioner Harvey brought this item. After a brief discussion it was determined that the approval of the April 9th meeting minutes would allow this bill to be resolved. Erica Harvey will forward the bill to Atty Paulson who shall submit the invoice for payment.

Motion to Accept Report, Sebastian Nash, 2nd Chris Green. Vote unanimous

Business and ID Cards

No Report

Funding and Transition Plan

The Commission relayed to Atty Paulson that the North East Independent Living Center had conducted an independent evaluation of ADA accessibility in City Buildings and that Lloyd DeJesus would provide the Commission with Updates monthly. The Commission will provide the report to Atty Paulson and mentioned the School accessibility evaluation that is beginning.

Motion to Accept Report, Ron Lassman, 2nd Chris Green. Vote unanimous

LRTA

No Report

LHS Building

No report

Open Discussion on Community Needs

No Report.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:27 pm, Erica, 2nd Sebastian Nash.

Motion passes.