

## **MCOD Minutes - May 7, 2026**

1. Call to Order - 7:04 p.m.
2. Motion to Approve the Agenda: Motion Ms. Santone, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ms. Lee - motion approved.
3. Attendance: Ms. Almonte, Mr. Hatch, Ms. Lee, Ms. Gonzalez, Mr. Gosselin, Mr. McCormack, Ms. Santone  
  
Absent: Ms. Santos, Ms. Gachohu
4. Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting - Motion Ms. Lee, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Hatch - motion approved.
5. Public Participation (Maximum 5 Minutes) - None
6. Treasurer's Report - Balance forward \$138,122.05, expenses \$7,500.00, miscellaneous revenue \$22,480.00 - total funds available \$153,102.05.
7. Motion to accept the treasurer's report - Motion Ms. Lee, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ms. Santone - motion passes.
8. ADA Coordinator's Report Click Fix Reports - No reports - Ms. Almonte did update the commission on an email that the commission received from an occupational therapist about one of her clients who lives in Methuen and was facing challenges with a cross walk near the rail trail that needed to be redone. Ms. Almonte spoke to the DPW director, and the project was put out to bid and will be finished by the end of July. Ms. Almonte reached out to the person who submitted the email directly and let them know. Ms. Gonzalez shared that she had just submitted a Click Fix ticket before the meeting to let the city know that she witnessed a gentleman on Broadway have to drive his wheelchair into the road to get around some orange construction barrels on Broadway. Ms. Almonte said she would look into it and to see if it was a city or state project. Ms. Gonzalez also submitted a ticket to have an issue with the curb on the sidewalk at the main lower school entrance at the Tenney school to be fixed.

9. Update from the Methuen D.P.W. - Ms. Almonte shared that the DPW director let her know that the sidewalks are being installed on Hampstead Street now. They will run from Howe Street to Maple Street.
10. Old Business - The commission discussed the upcoming Disability Pride Day on July 25<sup>th</sup> at the YMCA. Ms. Gonzalez and Ms. Lee are reaching out to the police department and fire departments to inquire about their participation. Possibly asking for the police department to bring their ice cream truck and the fire department to do a touch a truck. Ms. Almonte will send the commission the list of approved Methuen vendors so that the commissioners can look at the list to reach out for vendors for this event. Emails to the vendors will be asked to respond to Mr. Gosselin directly. Ms. Lee said she would look for a background that we could obtain to take pictures in front of for the day and that we may want to put that inside so that it is easier for pictures. Ms. Almonte suggested that we set a budget for purchases and for potential vendors for the day now. Motion was made by Ms. Lee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. McCormack to budget \$2000.00 for the event. Motion was approved. Mr. Gosselin spoke with Councilor Dizoglio regarding the potential of a new accessible entrance for the rail trail near the police station. Councilor Dizoglio stated that conservation was looking at the idea and would get back to him. He will update the commission when he has more information.
11. New Business - Ms. Lee said that she received an email from Councilor Dizoglio regarding a street that did not have sidewalks that he felt needed them for accessibility. Ms. Lee said that she would follow up with Councilor Dizoglio to see which street he was referring to. Ms. Almonte said that several of the streets were set to get new sidewalks as part of the city's ADA plan. Ms. Lee updated the commission on her meeting with Chief McNamara regarding bringing back the app that citizens can use to report someone illegally parked in a handicapped parking spot. Chief McNamara was in support of the idea but did not believe the app still existed. Ms. Lee is reaching out to the city's IT department to see if they could assist in recreating that application. Mr. McCormack questioned whether someone using the app would have to get involved if the person who was ticketed decided to dispute the ticket. Ms. Lee felt like that was something the police would handle directly.
12. Any Business for the Good and Welfare of the Community - There was a motion from Ms. Lee to have Ms. Gonzalez and Ms. Lee reach out to Steve Angelo the Director of Recreation for the city to visit some of the school playgrounds to come

up with a plan to make the accessible. Motion Ms. Lee, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Hatch - motion passed. Ms. Almonte mentioned that some of those plans may already be part of the ADA plan for the city. Ms. Almonte will email the ADA plan to the commissioners so that they can see what is on there. Ms. Almonte will again reach out to the building maintenance staff to assure that the front and back door automated doors can be opened automatically when there are meetings scheduled in the building after regular city hall hours. This is an ongoing issue that needs to be addressed. Mr. Hatch will send Mr. Gosselin a letter to be sent to the mayor's office for this issue as well.

13. Motion to Adjourn: Motion Mr. Hatch, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ms. Santone - motion passed.

14. Meeting Adjourned: 7:49 p.m.