

Commission on Disability Meeting
Minutes from Tuesday, April 16, 2013
Worcester City Hall, Levi Lincoln Room, 3rd flr
4:15 PM

Attendance

Members present: Rachel Shannon Brown, Herbert Cremer, Deborah Malone and Lynne Towler

Members absent: Charles Hiamah, Javier Pena, Pauline Piso and Stephen Stolberg

Staff: Jayna Turчек, Dawn E. Clark

Guests: Troy Thompson, No Evil Project; Matthew L. Moison, City Golf Professional

Members of the Public: Terry Burke Dotson, Jo Hart, David Johnson, Jacqueline Norton, Dr. Arthur Shay

1. Call to Order: The meeting began with a call to order and welcome from the chairperson. There were around the room introductions.

2. Approval of February 19, 2013 Minutes

Ms. Turчек read edits offered by Mr. Cremer. Motion was made to accept the February 19, 2013 minutes with edits by Ms. Malone seconded by Ms. Towler. There were 3 yeses, 0 nos and 1 abstention. Motion carried.

3. Public Comment Period Chairperson Brown explained the public comment period guidelines asking that comments reflect needs of the disabled and opportunity was given to reserve time later in the meeting to express their concerns on a particular item on the agenda.

Ms. Hart expressed concern about the schedule of the WRTA Route 8 bus. Ms. Hart also had a question about an event sponsored by the Human Rights Commission. Ms. Turчек provided her with information. Ms. Norton commented on a April 2nd report submitted to City Council by the Office of Human Rights & Disabilities and she wished the Commission did more programming.

The Chairperson thanked the Commission members for not responding to emails received from the public and noted that all Commission business is to be conducted at duly called meetings.

4. Disability Etiquette Video The City Cable Services has offered to assist the Commission on a video project if the Commission wishes to take one on. A few years ago the Commission did a video demonstrating the AutoMark (voting machine) and gotten quite a bit of attention. One of the areas that Ms. Turchek has noticed working in the office is a need for understanding etiquette when working with people with disabilities. An Etiquette video could be an educational and awareness tool for the community using the cable access channel. It might contain little vignettes about what is helpful and not helpful when working with people with disabilities. The Commission members present were very enthusiastic. Ms. Malone volunteered to be the liaison to the office in developing a script. It is very likely actors and collaborators beyond the Commission will be sought because of the limited number of members. The chairperson asked that an update on the project progress be brought to the next Commission meeting.

The Chairperson asked the audience about interest in the video project. Arthur Shay indicted his appreciation for such a video. He met Ms. Turchek the evening the Mayor presented a proclamation recognizing April as Amputee Awareness Month and suggested this group would have some ideas to offer a project like this.

Ms. Malone made a motion to take the agenda out of order, Ms. Towler seconded and motion carried.

9. Commission on Disability Brochure Ms. Turchek offered an updated draft brochure with staff and office location changes along with larger print for the Commission to review. The chairperson suggested any edits should be forward to staff by the next meeting. Mr. Cremer questioned whether or not the mission statement was written correctly. Ms. Turchek replied that the mission statement was taken from an earlier version of the brochure and that she believed it came from the language in the ordinance. Mr. Cremer will look through his Commission materials to see if the language differs from the past and if so he will bring it to the next meeting.

5. The No Evil Project/Bullying Project

Troy Thompson presented on the No Evil Project. It is a photography project that helps promote awareness about our differences and our basic goodness. He has taken over 1400 pictures of people for this project. There were examples of

pictures posted on the screen for everyone to see. This project is a way to show that people should not be defined by labels. The idea is to put a face to the labels. Individuals as well as groups participate in his project. He has banners in the Hanover Theatre and most recently Audio Journal has participated as a group. Mr. Thompson invited the Commission to participate in the project. The Chairperson moved for those interested that at the next meeting photos would be taken for the project. Ms. Towler seconded. Motion carried. 3 yes, 0 no ,1 abstention.

6. Stand Against Racism/Stand Against Disability Discrimination: April 26, 2013 There was a question raised about the project that required a response from the lead organizer. Being that no one present from the YWCA was there to answer questions and because the event was too close in time to organize for this year the item was tabled.

7. Union Station Reservation Request (CLW) The Center for Living & Working, Inc. submitted a request to reserve the Grand Hall at Union Station on Friday, October 18, 2013 for its biennial Awards Dinner. Ms. Brown moved to grant the request. Ms. Malone seconded. Motion carried with 4 yeses 0 nos.

8. Green Hill Golf Course: Policies and Procedures for Golfers with Disabilities Worcester Golf Pro Matthew L. Moison provided a draft of Green Hill Municipal Golf Course's Policies and Procedures for Disabled Golfers for the Commission's review and suggestions. In 2011 for the 20th anniversary of the ADA the city held a meeting to work toward compliance in all facilities, programs and services. In response he drafted this document and wanted to have it in place for the spring opening. This is designed as an internal document.

The Commission appreciated the first person language. He has asked for funding for a handicapped accessible cart to allow for greater access however there are days when all carts are not permitted on the course because of the weather. The issue is more a safety issue more than a damage issue. Whenever the conditions prevent golfers from taking carts out they put a notice on their website and tell people when they make reservations. The Commission suggested having the golfer call to know if carts are being used on a particular day. Communication signage will be provided once these procedures are final. If a golfer uses another vehicle a similar determination would be made. Large print can be available. Assistance from the Office of Human Rights & Disabilities would be appreciated on language translation. Mr. Moison will return with an updated policy as he would like approval on the final document. The Chairperson thanked Mr. Moison for addressing the programmatic pieces of the course and appreciates his involving the Commission in addressing ADA compliance.

10. AAB Notices and applications Ms. Turchek will continue to provide to the Commission. There were no comments on the notices submitted.

11. NEADA May Training Opportunity In order for the Commission to do its job more effectively, the Commission has an opportunity to attend and host an Introductory Architectural Plan Reading Workshop. The Commission unanimously agreed to host the workshop on May 22, 2013 from 1-4:30 PM in Levi Lincoln Chamber of City Hall. The trainer is a staff from the New England ADA Center.

12. Location for May Meeting - There was a possibility of meeting at another site, however, that is no longer available. Therefore, the May meeting will be in the Levi Lincoln Chamber.

13. Director's Report Ms. Turchek reported on the follow-up to the Commission's question: Did the cost of the work trigger the need for the entire Logan park to be ADA/AAB compliant at this time? The response from Robert Antonelli, Assistant Commissioner, DPW and John Kelly, Building Commissioner was that the cost did not trigger the need for the entire park to be compliant at this time.

Announcement: On Saturday, April 27 from 10 – noon at the AME Church on Belmont Street, Worcester, Ms. Malone will be conducting an ADA workshop for houses of worship.

The Chairperson reminded anyone that has an agenda item for a Commission meeting to notify staff.

Terry Burke Dotson – Would like to see parking and other issues at the DCU Center addressed. Ms. Turchek said a request to address the parking was submitted and that renovations were underway. The Chairperson thanked Ms. Dawson for her comment and invited her back referring her to the public comment period at the beginning of each Commission meeting. The Commission does not deliberate on an issue unless it has been posted on the agenda giving public notice that the item is to be discussed.

Ms. Malone moved to adjourn at 6:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Towler, Secretary,
Dawn Clark and Jayna Turchek, Staff



Disability Etiquette

Many people do not know what to say or how to act when they meet someone with a disability. Treat someone with a disability as you would like to be treated and you can't go wrong. Here is a brief list of tips to help in communicating with someone with a disability.

- When talking with a person with a disability, speak directly to that person rather than through a companion or sign language interpreter. Be patient if someone uses a device in order to communicate. Never pretend to understand someone, simply ask questions if you do not understand and they will correct it if necessary.
- To get the attention of person who is deaf, tap the person on the shoulder or wave your hand. Look directly at the person and speak clearly, slowly, and expressively to determine if the person can read your lips.
- When meeting a person who is visually impaired, always identify yourself and others who may be with you.
- Leaning on or hanging on to a person's wheelchair is an invasion of personal space and property.
- Place yourself at eye level with anyone who uses a wheelchair or crutches or who has physical limitations.
- If you offer assistance, wait until the offer is accepted. Then listen or ask for instructions. The worst they can do is say "No, thank you".
- When writing or need proper language, avoid all negative connotations or attitudes. Make reference to the person or persons first and then the disability, i.e., "a person with a disability" rather than "disabled person".
- Most importantly, relax and just be yourself. Remember that they are people first and disabled second.

When writing or speaking about people with disabilities, it is important to put the person first. Group designations such as "the blind" or "the retarded," are inappropriate because they do not reflect the individuality, equality or dignity of people with disabilities. Below is a listing of appropriate phrases and descriptions. Always remember: **Positive language empowers.**

Words With Dignity

- Physically disabled
- Deaf person/hearing impaired
- Person in a wheelchair/person who uses a wheelchair

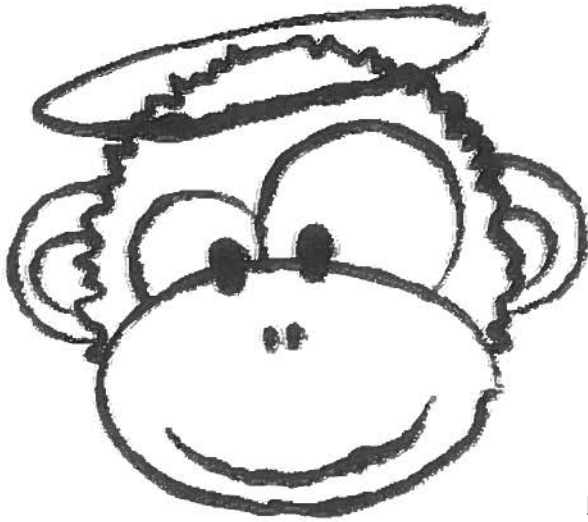
Words Not to Use

- Handicap
- Birth defect/incapacitated
- Deaf and dumb
- Wheelchair bound
- Confined to a wheelchair

NO EVIL PROJECT

[taken from: <http://www.noevilproject.com/>]

About the Project



If you believe everything you hear these days, you might think that your neighbors are out to steal your job, brainwash you and your children, and are bringing about a horrible new world order. The hyperbole we use to label and judge groups of people is the worst it has ever been in the history of the world. ~~Ever.~~
See what I did there?

Disagreement is natural. To some, it's even a favorite pastime. But it seems that instead of talking, listening and finding common ground, more and more people prefer to get others worked up and turn simple disagreement into "~~Us vs. Them~~" or even "~~Good vs. Evil~~". When that happens, it can lead to anything from strange looks on the street to fear of others to bullying to open hate and violence. ~~That's not cool.~~

Let's face it, there are unlimited differences between you and any other person, from religion to race to politics to what kind of cellphone you use or what sports team you root for. If we all focused on those disagreements and differences, it would be impossible to be friends with anyone because everyone would be a "Them" and, therefore, "Evil".

So, are you evil? Assuming you aren't devising any nefarious plots to bring about a zombie apocalypse, I'm guessing the answer is "no". In fact, I'm willing to bet that the answer is, "of course not." We may disagree on things, but "evil"? I don't think so.

If everyone were exactly the same, life would be pretty boring. But too often we avoid talking about our differences for fear of offending someone or taking on negative stereotypes. Unfortunately, people can feel strongly against a particular group because they don't know a lot of people from that group, don't understand their differences, or

have had a bad experience with a person who shared that particular quality. A lot of great people get grouped in with "Them" that way. It only gets worse when people feel that learning about our differences or hanging out with people we may disagree with on one issue makes "Us" one of "Them". However, getting a variety of ideas from people with different experiences is the best way to solve the problems we face.

~~The fact is, people with different opinions, backgrounds, and philosophies are doing good deeds every day.~~ Some of those deeds are big, and some are small, but every one of them is bringing people together and breaking down stereotypes. Purposely dividing people because of their differences only makes a community weaker. Seriously, would you debate a firefighter about his religion or economic philosophy before he saved your house?

What defines you?

~~The No Evil Project encourages you to start a new conversation and set new opinions.~~

First, choose which labels you want to represent. You don't need to be a Muslim Tea Party teacher or a gay undocumented Wall Street trader – there are stereotypes about everyone. You've heard them about yourself either seriously or in jest (trust me, I've heard every short joke and Norwegian joke out there). So take them on.

Next, show us how you're not evil by sharing something good that you've done or how you contribute to society. It doesn't have to be something big. What you do as an individual isn't defined by how some people may feel about the labels that represent you. Showing that lets others see you as the individual you are, rather than some mysterious "Them".

Granted, some people out there need the visual. That's where the photos come in. What better way to show you're not evil than to pose as the three wise monkeys: see no evil, hear no evil, and speak no evil? Plus, it's kinda fun, and who could be upset with or scared of someone willing to pose as famous monkeys?

Camera shy? That's fine too – you can still help by liking the ~~No Evil Project Facebook page~~ or passing this site along to your friends or other organizations that may appreciate it.

There are many ~~ways to help out.~~

Let's make a difference about differences.

I don't believe the majority of people out there are evil or that they think others are. I believe a variety of ideas and experiences leads to stronger, more vibrant communities and better solutions to the problems we face. ~~We should be proud of our differences and how we contribute to society, rather than trying to blend in.~~

So if you're not evil, and want to show others that you're not evil too, I hope you'll join the project and help spread the word. ~~Let's see how many non=evil people we can get to join us!~~

Take care,

Troy

Participate in the No Evil Project

First off, thanks for wanting to participate in the No Evil Project. I look forward to seeing what you have to share. Here are some tips that will help you out with your submission.

If you don't already have one, you'll need to create an account. This will let you edit your set information later. Although you can submit photos for multiple people, it works best if everyone creates an account for themselves.

The Photos

You don't need to know or be a professional photographer to participate in the project. We want everyone to be a part of it, so just find a friend or a tripod and take some pictures posing as the three wise monkeys. To help you out and get the best results, we even put together a page of [photo guidelines & tips](#).

Labels

No matter who you are, people have made opinions about you based on labels and stereotypes associated with them. What labels apply to you? Categories include Age, Family & Relationships, Gender & Sexuality, Medical Conditions, Occupations / Hobbies, Physical Attributes, Politics, Race / Nationality / Ethnic Groups, Religions & Beliefs, Socioeconomic Status, Sports & Games, Subcultures, & Technology. We've provided a list of labels that may be used, but feel free to suggest more. The catch? You must pick three. Three words that people may use to label you, but that don't define you.

Good Deed

Everyone does good things, big or small – it's not about bragging. Your actions may affect large groups of people, your neighborhood, or just one friend or family member. That doesn't matter here, just let us know, and start redefining your labels.

Approval Process

Once you've submitted a set, we'll take a look at any new labels you want and let you know if we have any questions about your entry. Once it's approved, it will show up on the site and you can share it with your friends! Don't stress out about the labels and text, you can change them at any time. New photos just need to be re-approved. Let's begin!

Groups

Not only do a wide variety of individuals in the community do good deeds, groups and organizations do as well. Learn about some groups that are participating in the No Evil Project.

- Audio Journal
- Central Massachusetts Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Dance to Live Foundation
- Girls Incorporated of Worcester
- Music Worcester
- Nichols College
- Quinnipiac University
- The Hangover Theatre for the Performing Arts
- Worcester Women's History Project (WOMHP)

Have a group of people that want to participate? We welcome groups from religious organizations to non-profits to sports teams to your college dorm. If you get your staff or members together to all participate, we can setup a group page for you here. Contact info@noevilproject.com for help in setting this up.



HOW DOES DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION AFFECT ALL OF US?

We all have a personal stake in discrimination against people with disabilities; it affects anyone who has experienced an accident, illness, genetic difference, or the effects of aging. Experts say disabilities will soon affect the lives of most Americans.

- Between 1990 and 2000, the number of Americans with disabilities increased 25 percent.
- People with disabilities are the largest minority group in the United States, or 20% of the population, and quite diverse, crossing lines of age, ethnicity, gender, race, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.
- Of the 69.6 million families in the United States, more than 20 million have at least one family member with a disability.
- Globally, people with disabilities represent an emerging market the size of China.
- Even with the progress made in disability rights in the past 25 years, the majority of people with disabilities are poor, under-employed, and under-educated due largely to unequal opportunities.

EMPLOYMENT

The key unemployment issue is non-employment. Despite the increasing incidence of disability, unnecessary physical barriers which exist throughout our society prevent four-fifths of all employable adults with disabilities from earning a living.

A substantial part of the wage differential for people with disabilities is due to discrimination.

Corporate culture can limit employment opportunities for people with disabilities. Human Resources professionals may be personally uncomfortable around people with disabilities, which may in turn manifest itself in a reluctance to hire, retain, or promote these individuals. Employers may believe that a worker with a disability will not be accepted by co-workers and therefore will be less productive on a team. Employers may have stereotypes about the types of jobs or industries appropriate for people with certain types of disabilities and may have biases about the attitudes, aspirations, and potential of workers with disabilities.

Many employers fear that the cost of workplace accommodations for individuals with disabilities will be prohibitive, when, in actuality, the average cost in 2006 was \$600 or less. What is more, the vast majority of workers with disabilities do not require any accommodations at all.

Studies show that people with disabilities do not often make claims. Ninety-one percent of employers had no disability complaints filed in the previous 12 months. People with disabilities want jobs, not lawsuits, and they are no more of a legal liability than other employees.

Large companies do not experience increased insurance premiums when they hire employees with disabilities. Companies that institute Return-to-Work programs for employees who become disabled actually reduce insurance costs.

Employees with disabilities learn to persevere and develop problem-solving, planning and people skills as part of managing a disability, and have better retention rates at the workplace overall. Workers with disabilities are rated consistently as average or above average in performance, quality and quantity of work, flexibility, and attendance.

Ninety-two percent of consumers surveyed felt more favorable toward companies that hire individuals with disabilities.

Diverse workforces boost employee morale and productivity.

EDUCATION

It's all too common and completely mistaken to blame special education for the shortcomings of the public K-12 system. If budgets are tight and programs get cut, people blame special education for draining money from general education.

Fact: Special education accounts for just 14% of the increase in the teaching workforce.

Fact: Special education brings in additional funding for programs schools would otherwise have to pay for themselves.

Fact: The overall cost of private placements nationwide constitutes 0.24 percent of school spending.

The unstated assumption behind blaming special education is that money spent on special education is money flushed down the toilet and that nothing can help kids with disabilities. This false assumption fuels the quiet resentment of resources devoted to special education.

The fact is that most people living with disabilities are able to learn to make significant improvements and contribute to society.

Albert Einstein was described as “mentally slow, unsociable, and adrift forever in his foolish dreams” by his teachers. Einstein has been given many labels posthumously—genius, of course, but also dyslexic with attention deficit disorder and on the autism spectrum. But like many who get such labels, Einstein was a different kind of thinker. And it took a different kind of thinker to totally revolutionize physics and our view of the cosmos.

Research shows that students with disabilities are more prone to being bullied or teased by other students. Students with disabilities receive more disciplinary actions than their peers. And, many families still have to fight for their children to receive a free and appropriate education in the least restrictive environment.

HEALTHCARE AND INSURANCE

The delivery of health related services is in crisis for people with disabilities, who are more likely to be uninsured, receive second-class health care even if they are insured, and pay more for their health care, insurance, and benefits than people without disabilities. Such inadequacies have a devastating impact on the health and life of an individual with a disability.

HOUSING

There is a crisis in affordable housing in this country.

People with disabilities, who require accessible housing, face additional barriers because accessible housing is in short supply and landlords therefore charge more for it.

Many people with disabilities have a **seven-year wait** for housing.

When we read about the emotionally charged protests against supportive housing in our neighborhoods we hear shocking statements like: “Send them to Mars!” It is important to remember that the term “them” in actuality refers to our neighbors, our friends, and our families.

Helen Keller, a woman who overcame overwhelming social stigma, said, “The highest result of education is tolerance.” The public is bombarded by falsehoods and sensationalism. What is almost never publicized is the fact that the vast majority of those with disabilities live in their communities with great success. They have genial relationships with their neighbors, live productive lives, and positively contribute to their communities.

In a legal complaint brought by residents of the upper west side in New York against a group home, the residents put in writing that they believed that having neighbors with disabilities would decrease their property value.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Recognizing and understanding disabilities is vital when relating to people with disabilities. In some cases, an individual might misunderstand or be unable to follow police instructions. When an officer is not trained to recognize disabilities, he or she might misinterpret behavior and inappropriately respond. When law enforcement partners with the disability community for education and training, they can combat stigma and save lives.

LEGISLATION AND ADVOCACY

Progress is being made. However, it is crucial that the focus on legislation and advocacy remains constant. Disability legislation can protect human rights, enhance the quality of services, and promote the integration of persons with disabilities into communities.

MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

Opinions are shaped by what we read in newspapers, what we hear on the radio, and what we see on television and in the movies. But these images are rarely accurate.

People with disabilities play fewer than two percent of characters on television, even though more than 20% of Americans live with a disability. Only one-half of one percent of words spoken on television are spoken by a person with a disability.

Characters with disabilities have generally fallen into a narrow group of damaging stereotypes—heroic fighters, pathetic victims, bitter narcissists, or disfigured villains—perpetuating the myth that people with disabilities are not complex human beings, but instead, less capable, less valuable members of society.

TRANSPORTATION

Intersections without curb ramps. Crosswalk signals without sound that alert visually impaired pedestrians when it is safe to cross the street. Buses with broken wheelchair lifts. Telephone poles and other barriers blocking sidewalks. Trains that have unclear or no stop announcements. Subway stations with broken elevators.

These are just a few of the issues facing people with disabilities every day.

Transportation is a vital part of independent living for everyone. Accessible and dependable transportation is especially important for people with disabilities, many of

whom rely on it to get to work, school, health care, or other recreational or spiritual activities in their community.

Yet, 30% of Americans with disabilities have a problem with inadequate transportation, compared to only 10% of those without disabilities. Add to that the fact that as our population ages, there will be a dramatic increase in the number of people with disabilities in the years to come. The need for improvements is strong today and will continue to grow into the future.

**eliminating racism
empowering women**
ywca



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Conduct a discussion by asking thought-provoking questions like:

1. What would it be like if your community did not have anyone with disabilities living there? What would you gain? What would you lose?
2. Is there a place where no one has a disability?
3. Think about people you know who have disabilities, either those you know personally or someone famous you have read about. What have they contributed to the world? What would the world be like without them?
4. Think about famous people with disabilities. How did they overcome obstacles? What got in their way the most?
5. What would you do if you became disabled? What would you want? How would you want others to treat you?
6. Make a list of things that people do that someone with a disability might find offensive. What would you do if you observed that occurring?



STAND AGAINST RACISM

PLEDGE AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

As an individual committed to social justice,
I stand with the YWCA against discrimination
towards people with disabilities.

I will commit to a lifetime of promoting
respect, freedom, dignity and inclusion
for all people in my community
and in the world.



RESOURCES AND INFORMATION

The links below have been compiled in order to provide you with additional sources of information and/or materials.

10 Commandments for Communicating with People with Disabilities

If your workforce is going to include people with a wide range of disabilities, all employees must overcome their awkwardness and reservations about the disability "factor." This video uses humor and solid information to help organizations become "disability-friendly."

<http://www.disabilitytraining.com>

AAPD

American Association for People with Disabilities

The country's largest cross-disability membership organization organizes the disability community to be a powerful voice for change—politically, economically, and socially. AAPD was founded in 1995 to help unite the diverse community of people with disabilities, including their family, friends, and supporters, and to be a national voice for change in implementing the goals of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

<http://www.aapd-dc.org>

ADAPT

A national grass-roots community that organizes disability rights activists to engage in nonviolent direct action, including civil disobedience, to assure the civil and human rights of people with disabilities to live in freedom.

<http://www.adapt.org>

AD/HD Teens Talk: A Training Program for Middle and High School Teachers

PowerPoint presentation used in workshops by FCPS staff. (PDF Document)

http://www.fcps.edu/fairfaxnetwork/adhd/powerpoint/ad_hd.pdf

The ARC of New Jersey

Advocacy organization committed to enhancing the quality of life of children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families through advocacy, empowerment, education and prevention.

<http://www.thearcnj.org>

Autism New Jersey

Autism New Jersey is a nonprofit organization providing information and advocacy, services, family and professional education, and consultation. The organization encourages responsible basic and applied research that may lessen the effects of, and potentially prevent, autism. Autism New Jersey is dedicated to ensuring that all people with autism receive appropriate, effective services to maximize their growth potential and to enhance the public's overall awareness of autism.

<http://www.autismnj.org>

Autism Speaks

Autism Speaks is dedicated to increasing awareness of autism spectrum disorders, to funding research into the causes, prevention and treatments for autism.

<http://www.autismspeaks.org>

CHADD

Children and Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder Nation's leading nonprofit organization serving individuals with AD/HD and their families. CHADD has over 16,000 members in 200 local chapters throughout the US. Chapters offer support for individuals, parents, teachers, professionals, and others.

<http://www.chadd.net>

Consortium for People with Disabilities

A coalition of approximately 100 national disability organizations working together to advocate for national public policy that ensures the self-determination, independence, empowerment, integration, and inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society.

<http://www.c-c-d.org>

DisabilityInfo.gov

DisabilityInfo.gov is a website with information about everything offered by the US government helpful to people with disabilities. Here you can learn about benefits, civil rights, community life, education, employment, housing, health, technology, and transportation.

<http://www.qualitymall.org/products/prod1.asp?prodid=6354>

Disability Rights New Jersey

The consumer-directed, nonprofit organization that serves as New Jersey's designated protection and advocacy system for people with disabilities in the state. The second link leads to "An Advocate's Guide to the New Jersey Legislature."

<http://www.drnj.org>

<http://www.drnj.org/pdf/Legislative%20Manual.pdf>

Education Law Center: Standing up for Public School Children

Founded in 1973, Education Law Center (ELC) advocates on behalf of public school children for access to an equal and adequate education under state and federal laws. ELC's work is based on a core value: if given the opportunity, all children can achieve high academic standards to

A partnership of the YWCA's Stand Against Racism and the NJ Governor's Council on Mental Health Stigma. Visit www.StandAgainstRacism.org to learn more.

prepare them for citizenship and to compete in the economy. ELC focuses on improving public education for disadvantaged children, and children with disabilities and other special needs. ELC uses a wide variety of strategies, including public education and engagement, policy initiatives, research, communications and, as a last resort, legal action.

<http://www.edlawcenter.org/>

The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities

UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Provides training, technical assistance, educational products, and information related to developmental disabilities to professionals and families.

<http://rwjms.umdni.edu/boggscenter>

NAMI

National Alliance on Mental Illness

The National Alliance on Mental Illness is a nonprofit, grassroots, self-help, support and advocacy organization of consumers, families, and friends of people with mental illness.

<http://www.nami.org>

New Jersey Community College Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development

<http://www.njworkforce.org>

New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities

“Just Say Something” Campaign

The New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities is calling on people throughout the state and beyond to speak up and publicly discuss issues affecting and influencing the lives of people with disabilities. The “Just Say Something” campaign was launched on the 4th of July—Independence Day—to underscore the unalienable rights and freedoms of people with developmental disabilities.

www.justsaysomething.org

New Jersey Governor’s Council on Mental Health Stigma

This task force was formed to investigate New Jersey’s mental health system and develop solutions to the obstacles that currently face those with mental illness, and their families.

<http://www.state.nj.us/mhstigmacouncil>

Offense Taken: A Documentary About How One Community Responded to the R Word

In the spring of 2007, when a Minneapolis theater company put on a show titled “Rise of the Celebretards,” people with disabilities and their allies took action. “Offense Taken” documents this community’s organized response to the play title and to the public use of the “R” word, “retard.” By lifting up the voices of a broad range of citizens—people with disabilities, allies, educators, artists, and neutral theatergoers—the documentary also serves as a springboard for discussion about language: Does artistic freedom trump human rights? With the release of this film, a coalition of Minnesota organizations and individuals is launching a campaign to encourage a community-wide discussion about disrespectful language and human rights.

<http://www.selfadvocacy.org/offensetaken>

A partnership of the YWCA’s Stand Against Racism and the NJ Governor’s Council on Mental Health Stigma. Visit www.StandAgainstRacism.org to learn more.

Paths to Inclusion

Inclusion isn't just a way of teaching — it's an attitude and approach for all aspects of life. This resource guide, by the Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation and its Inclusion Task Force, offers best practices for making programs and activities accessible to young people of all abilities.

<http://www.ldonline.org/pdfs/pathstoinclusion.pdf>

PCIL - Progressive Center for Independent Living

You can enhance your own independent living, or that of others with disabilities, by becoming a participant or member of PCIL. Learn how PCIL's services can add new dimensions to the lives of people with disabilities, their families, and the community.

<http://www.pcil.org/home>

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic

Below are two important resources for those who care about advocacy, education, and servicing the needs of individuals with visual and learning disabilities.

http://m1.rfbd.org/mk/get/DEC2008_MEM_SEC8? A=12264& U=12309

<http://www.rfbd.org/resourcelinks.htm>

SABE

Self Advocates Becoming Empowered

SABE is the national organization of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

<http://www.sabeusa.org>

SERV Centers of New Jersey

SERV shares its experiences, support and guidance with children, adults, and families as they work to recover from and cope with mental illness, addictions, challenging behaviors, and developmental disabilities.

<http://www.servbhs.net>

SPAN

Statewide Parent Advocacy Network

The mission of the Statewide Parent Advocacy Network is to empower and support families and inform and involve professionals and others interested in the healthy development and education of children and youth.

<http://www.spannj.org>

Start with Hi Campaign

Community Living British Columbia

If you or a family member have a developmental disability, go to this website and tell your story about how someone made you feel like part of your community. Or if you said "Hi" to someone with a developmental disability, tell us your story, tell us how it made you feel, or the difference you feel like it could make.

<http://www.startwithhi.ca>

State of New Jersey - Office of the Child Advocate

The Office of the Child Advocate identifies systemic problems that prevent government or community agencies from achieving positive outcomes for children.

www.childadvocate.nj.gov

United States Department of Labor - The Office of Disability Employment Policy

The Office of Disability Employment Policy provides national leadership on disability employment policy by developing and influencing the use of evidence-based disability employment policies and practices, building collaborative partnerships, and delivering authoritative and credible data on employment of people with disabilities.

<http://www.dol.gov/odep/about/about.htm>

The Nth Degree

A web site and catalog specializing in products, designs and stories for the interdependent living, inclusion, diversity and disability rights movement.

www.thenthdegree.com



CENTER FOR LIVING & WORKING, INC.

484 Main St. Suite 345, Denholm Building, Worcester, MA 01608
Voice (508) 798-0350 Toll Free (800) 570-4020
TTY (508) 755-1003 VP (508) 762-1164
Facsimile (508) 797-4015
Website: www.centerlw.org

Independent Living Services
Personal Care Management Services
Deaf & Hard of Hearing Independent Living Services

February 20, 2013

Director of Human Rights & Disabilities
City Hall – 455 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608

Sent via email: disabilities@worcesterma.gov

Dear Jayna,

I am writing on behalf of the Center for Living & Working, Inc.
484 Main St., Suite 345
Worcester, MA 01608
(www.centerlw.org)

to request the use of Union Station for our biennial Awards Dinner, Friday October 18, 2013 5:30pm -11:00pm. We anticipate 200 guests; we will be presenting 2 awards, and will have dinner, a silent auction and entertainment –most likely a DJ.

To my knowledge, CLW has never been granted one of the three yearly no-cost spaces at Union Station reserved for the disability community.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request and you can contact me directly with any questions.

Best,

Tara M. O'Connor
Executive Director
508-755-1101

Green Hill Municipal Golf Course Policies and Procedure for Disabled Golfers

Communication:

- When talking with a person with a disability, speak directly to that person rather than through a companion or sign language interpreter. Be patient if someone uses a device in order to communicate. Never pretend to understand someone, simply ask questions if you do not understand and they will correct it if necessary.
- To get the attention of person who is deaf, tap the person on the shoulder or wave your hand. Look directly at the person and speak clearly, slowly, and expressively to determine if the person can read your lips.
- When meeting a person who is visually impaired, always identify yourself and others who may be with you.
- Leaning on or hanging on to a person's wheelchair is an invasion of personal space and property.
- Place yourself at eye level with anyone who uses a wheelchair or crutches or who has physical limitations.
- If you offer assistance, wait until the offer is accepted. Then listen or ask for instructions. The worst they can do is say "No, thank you".
- When writing or need proper language, avoid all negative connotations or attitudes. Make reference to the person or persons first and then the disability, i.e., "a person with a disability" rather than "disabled person".
- Most importantly, relax and just be yourself. Remember that they are people first and disabled second.

Player Registration:

- Use main cash register to assist customers in registering for play.
- Players with wheel chairs or mobility issues can be brought to the right side of the main register where there is open space provided for them.
- Allow for extra time as needed to accommodate players with disabilities. Never bypass the players to get to the next customer.
- Course starter/rangers shall be notified by staff or player of any special considerations they may need.

Access to the course:

- Golf course starter/rangers shall assist players in locating the first tee or starting hole in a timely manner to ensure disabled players can meet their tee time.
- Golf Carts must be stored in the front of the building on the black top on the level ground behind the 6th green.
- Handicap golf cart driving rules and regulations:
 - Players with mobility issues, who need special considerations, i.e. increased cart access, must notify starter/ranger or have clubhouse staff notify starter/rangers that the player shall be using the course's handicap golf cart parking locations.
 - These players shall be granted increased access to the golf course grounds to allow for greater ease of reaching the teeing ground and putting greens.
 - Specially designated handicap cart parking markers shall be placed on each hole by the grounds maintenance crew in areas that allow for greater access to the putting greens. These markers shall be placed on flat terrain away from damp or slippery conditions. These markers shall be moved from time to time to prevent wear patterns as in accordance with best case maintenance practices.

- Cart path only rules shall be installed when course conditions become too wet to allow carts on fairways and roughs. This condition causes rutting of the course, unsafe travel on slope areas, and slippery footing conditions.
- When course conditions require cart path only usage all handicap driving rules are suspended.

Invitation to Participate

The Commission on Disability typically meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 4:15 pm in the Esther Howland Chamber, 3rd Floor, City Hall, 455 Main St. Please check meeting notices at City Hall, on the City website:

www.worcesterma.gov

or on the Worcester government channel, Charter cable channel 12.

If you would like to bring an issue to the attention of the Commission, you can speak during the public comment period of the meeting or make a request to address the commission by contacting Jayna Turchek, at (508) 799-1152 or by email to: disabilities@worcesterma.gov

To request an Accommodation

The City of Worcester is committed to making all public meetings accessible to the public. Please contact Jayna Turchek to request an accommodation. Please note that we may require 1-2 weeks advance notification to request sign interpreters.

City of Worcester, Massachusetts



Administration

Michael V. O'Brien
City Manager

Jayna Turchek
*Director of Human Rights &
Disabilities
& ADA Coordinator*

Dawn Clark
Disability Intake Worker

Commission Members

Rachel Shannon Brown, Chair
Deborah Malone, Vice-Chair
Lynne Towler, Secretary
Herbert Cremer
Charles Hiamah
Pauline Piso
Stephen Stolberg

Associate Member

Javier Peña

*Working together to improve
accessibility & understanding*

Commission on Disability

Mission Statement

The Commission ensures that all Worcester residents and visitors with disabilities have access to city programs and services by providing information and referral, advocacy, outreach and educational programs.

Executive Office of the City Manager
Office of Human Rights & Disabilities
Outreach Office, Room 303
Office of the Director, Room 311
City Hall - 455 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608

Telephone: (508) 799-8483 or
(508) 799-1152
Fax: (508) 799-1208

Email: disabilities@worcesterma.gov

Web:

www.worcesterma.gov/ocm/disabilities

es

History of the Worcester Commission on Disability

In 1977, a small group of people with disabilities met with City Manager Frances McGrath to request the establishment of an advisory committee on disability issues. In 1978, City Manager McGrath, through Executive Order 19, established the “*City Manager’s Advisory Committee on the Handicapped*.”

In 2003, under authority of Article Six of the Home Rule Charter there is hereby established under the jurisdiction of the city manager an agency of the city to be known as the “*Worcester Commission on Disability*.”

Establishment and Membership

Classification: Advisory

Term: Three (3) years

Membership: Seven regular members, five associates; appointed by the city manager.

Special requirements for nomination: A majority shall consist of people with disabilities; one member may be a member of the immediate family of a person with a disability.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Encourage public awareness of disability issues.
- Coordinate with local groups or individuals organized or committed to conduct research and carry out programs designed to meet the problems and needs of people with disabilities.
- Review and make recommendations about policies, procedures, services and activities of city departments and agencies to bring about full and equal participation by people with disabilities.
- Advise and assist city officials and employees to ensure compliance with local, state and federal laws and regulations that affect people with disabilities.
- Monitor the City’s development for the proper accessibility protocols.
- Provide information, referrals, guidance and technical assistance to individuals, public agencies, businesses and organizations in all matters pertaining to disability.
- Submit an annual report to the city manager stating the undertakings of the committee, its accomplishments, conclusions and recommendations concerning the status of persons with disabilities in Worcester.

Activities

Monitor the City’s progress regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan.

Review HP Parking violation stats.

Monitor Accessible cab stats.

Advise Public Works Dept. on critically needed repairs and annual expenditure of \$200,000 for accessibility of sidewalks.

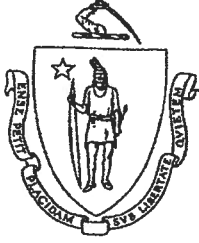
Review and comment on local applications before the MA Architectural Access Board.

Provide trainings for the community on disability related topics

Become a Member

Membership is open to Worcester residents who have lived in the city for at least one year and are registered voters. Contact Jeannie Michelson at 508-799-1175 for more information. An application can also be obtained on the city’s website:

www.worcesterma.gov/boards-commissions



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Public Safety

Architectural Access Board
One Ashburton Place, Room 1310
Boston, Massachusetts 02108-1618

Phone 617-727-0660

Fax 617-727-0665

www.mass.gov/dps

Deval L. Patrick
Governor

Timothy P. Murray
Lieutenant Governor

Andrea J. Cabral
Secretary

Thomas G. Gatzunis, P.E.
Commissioner

Thomas P. Hopkins
Director

TO: Local Building Inspector
Local Disability Commission
Independent Living Center

Docket Number V 13 059

FROM: ARCHITECTURAL ACCESS BOARD

RE: Worcester Academy Walker Hall
81 Providence Street
Worcester

Date: 3/25/2013

Enclosed please find the following material regarding the above location:

___ Application for Variance

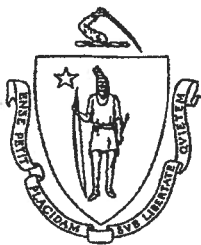
Decision of the Board *w/conditions*

___ Notice of Hearing

___ Correspondence

___ Letter of Meeting

The purpose of this memo is to advise you of action taken or to be taken by this Board. If you have any information which may assist the Board in reaching a decision in this case, you may call this office or you may submit comments in writing.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Public Safety

Architectural Access Board
One Ashburton Place, Room 1310
Boston, Massachusetts 02108-1618

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Andrea J. Cabral
Secretary

Thomas G. Gatzunis, P.E.
Commissioner

Thomas P. Hopkins
Director

Docket Number V 13. 059

NOTICE OF ACTION

RE: Worcester Academy Walker Hall, 81 Providence Street

1. A request for a variance was filed with the Board by Thomas DiConza, CFO (Applicant) on March 4, 2013. The applicant has requested variances from the following sections of the 06 Rules and Regulations of the Board:

Table with 2 columns: Section, Description. Row 1: 25.1, Petitioner seeks relief from having to make the existing West side stair entry accessible to persons with disabilities via a new ramp system costing approximately \$200,000. The entry to the ramping system would state in the same location of the walkway accessible entrance that is proposed and shown in the application.

2. The application was heard by the Board as an incoming case on Monday, March 25, 2013

3. After reviewing all materials submitted to the Board, the Board voted as follows:

GRANT: the variance to Section 25.1 as proposed in the application submitted, for the reason that impracticability (see definitions of impracticability in Section 5 of 521 CMR) has been proven in this case on the condition that the accessible entrance is constructed as shown in the application for the South entrance stair and walkway.

PLEASE NOTE: All documentation (written and visual) verifying that the conditions of the variance have been met must be submitted to the AAB Office as soon as the required work is completed.

Any person aggrieved by the above decision may request an adjudicatory hearing before the Board within 30 days of receipt of this decision by filing the attached request for an adjudicatory hearing. If after 30 days, a request for an adjudicatory hearing is not received, the above decision becomes a final decision and the appeal process is through Superior Court.

Date: March 25, 2013

cc: Local Disability Commission
Local Building Inspector
Independent Living Center

Walter White J.H.
Chairperson
ARCHITECTURAL ACCESS BOARD



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Public Safety
Architectural Access Board

One Ashburton Place, Room 1310
Boston Massachusetts 02108-1618

Phone: 617-727-0660

Fax: 617-727-0665

www.mass.gov/dps

Docket Number

(Office Use Only)

REQUEST FOR ADJUDICATORY HEARING

RE: _____
 Name and address of building as appearing on application for variance

I, _____, do hereby request that the Architectural Access Board
 conduct an informal Adjudicatory Hearing in accordance with the provisions of 801 CMR Rule 1.02 et.
 seq. as I am aggrieved by the decision of the Board with respect to Section(s) _____
 of the Rules and Regulations of the Architectural Access Board, 521 CMR.

I understand that I may request such a hearing within **thirty (30) days** of receipt of the Notice of Action.

Date: _____

 Signature

PLEASE PRINT:

 Name

 Address

 City/Town State Zip Code

 E-mail

 Telephone

PLEASE NOTE:

This form must be received by the Board within thirty (30) days after receipt of the Notice of Action.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Public Safety

*Architectural Access Board
One Ashburton Place, Room 1310
Boston, Massachusetts 02108-1618*

Phone 617-727-0660

Fax 617-727-0665

www.mass.gov/dps

Deval L. Patrick
Governor

Timothy P. Murray
Lieutenant Governor

Andrea J. Cabral
Secretary

Thomas G. Gatzunis, P.E.
Commissioner

Thomas P. Hopkins
Director

TO: Local Building Inspector
Local Disability Commission
Independent Living Center

Docket Number V 13 061

FROM: ARCHITECTURAL ACCESS BOARD

RE: **Morgan Hall "The Wedge" WPI**
90 Institute Road
Worcester

Date: **3/25/2013**

Enclosed please find the following material regarding the above location:

Application for Variance

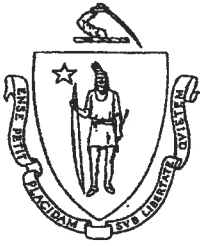
Decision of the Board

Notice of Hearing

Correspondence

Letter of Meeting

The purpose of this memo is to advise you of action taken or to be taken by this Board. If you have any information which may assist the Board in reaching a decision in this case, you may call this office or you may submit comments in writing.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Public Safety

Architectural Access Board
One Ashburton Place, Room 1310
Boston, Massachusetts 02108-1618

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Thomas G. Gatzunis, P.E.
Commissioner

Thomas P. Hopkins
Director

Docket Number V 13. 061

NOTICE OF ACTION

RE: Morgan Hall "The Wedge" WPI, 90 Institute Road, Worcester
1. A request for a variance was filed with the Board by Alfredo DiMauro Jr, Assoc (Applicant) on March 7, 2013
The applicant has requested variances from the following sections of the 06 Rules and Regulations of the Board:

<u>Section:</u>	<u>Description:</u>
24.10	Petitioner seeks relief for a ramp with a slight curve. All other components of the ramp fully comply with 521 CMR and the applicable sections:

2. The application was heard by the Board as an incoming case on Monday, March 25, 2013

3. After reviewing all materials submitted to the Board, the Board voted as follows:

GRANT: the variance to Section 24.10 as proposed in the application submitted, for the reason that impracticability (see definitions of impracticability in Section 5 of 521 CMR) has been proven in this case.

PLEASE NOTE: All documentation (written and visual) verifying that the conditions of the variance have been met must be submitted to the AAB Office as soon as the required work is completed.

Any person aggrieved by the above decision may request an adjudicatory hearing before the Board within 30 days of receipt of this decision by filing the attached request for an adjudicatory hearing. If after 30 days, a request for an adjudicatory hearing is not received, the above decision becomes a final decision and the appeal process is through Superior Court.

Date: March 25, 2013

cc: Local Disability Commission
Local Building Inspector
Independent Living Center

Walter White T.H.
Chairperson
ARCHITECTURAL ACCESS BOARD



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Public Safety
Architectural Access Board

One Ashburton Place, Room 1310
 Boston Massachusetts 02108-1618

Phone: 617-727-0660

Fax: 617-727-0665

www.mass.gov/dps

Docket Number

(Office Use Only)

REQUEST FOR ADJUDICATORY HEARING

RE: _____
 Name and address of building as appearing on application for variance

I, _____, do hereby request that the Architectural Access Board
 conduct an informal Adjudicatory Hearing in accordance with the provisions of 801 CMR Rule 1.02 et.
 seq. as I am aggrieved by the decision of the Board with respect to Section(s) _____
 of the Rules and Regulations of the Architectural Access Board, 521 CMR.

I understand that I may request such a hearing within **thirty (30) days** of receipt of the Notice of Action.

Date: _____

 Signature

PLEASE PRINT:

 Name

 Address


 City/Town State Zip Code

 E-mail

 Telephone

PLEASE NOTE:

This form must be received by the Board within thirty (30) days after receipt of the Notice of Action.

	<p><i>The Commonwealth of Massachusetts</i></p> <p>Department of Public Safety</p> <p>Architectural Access Board</p> <p>One Ashburton Place, Room 1310 Boston Massachusetts 02108-1618</p> <p>Phone: 617-727-0660 Fax: 617-727-0665 www.mass.gov/dps</p>	<p>Docket Number</p> <hr/> <p>(Office Use Only)</p>

APPLICATION FOR VARIANCE

In accordance with M.G.L., c.22, § 13A, I hereby apply for modification of or substitution for the rules and regulations of the Architectural Access Board as they apply to the building/facility described below on the grounds that literal compliance with the Board's regulations is impracticable in my case.

PLEASE ENCLOSE:

- 1) A filing fee of \$50.00 (Check/Money Order) made payable to the "Commonwealth of Massachusetts" and all supporting documentation (e.g. plans in 11" x 17" format, photographs, etc.). In addition, the complete package (including plans, photographs and the completed "Service Notice") must be submitted to all parties via compact disc.
- 2) If you are a tenant seeking variance(s), a letter from the owner of the building authorizing you to apply on his or her behalf is required.
- 3) The completed "Service Notice" form provided at the end of this application certifying that a copy of your *complete application* has been received by the Local Building Inspector, Local Disability Commission (if applicable), and Local Independent Living Center for the city/town that the property in question resides in. A list of the local entities can be found by calling the Architectural Access Board Office or the Local City/Town Clerk. For a list of the Local Independent Living Centers you can either call the Architectural Access Board Office or visit the Massachusetts Statewide Independent Living Council website at <http://www.masilc.org/membership/cils>.

1. State the name and address of the owner of the building/facility:

Fidelis Corporation
Attention: Chris Tully
P.O. Box 60305 Worcester, MA 01606
E-mail: chris@cmtully.com
Telephone: 508-868-9087

2. State the name and address of the building/facility:

Retail Building
649 West Boylston Street
Worcester, MA 0160

3. Describe the facility (i.e. number of floors, type of functions, use, etc.):

The existing facility is a multi tenant 1 story retail building. A new yogurt shop is to be constructed within an existing 944s.f. tenant space.

4. Total square footage of the building: 9,939 gross sq.ft.

Per floor: First Floor: 9,939 sq.ft.

a. total square footage of tenant space (if applicable): 982s.f.

5. Check the work performed or to be performed:

New Construction Addition
 Reconstruction/Remodeling/Alteration Change of Use

6. Briefly describe the extent and nature of the work performed or to be performed (use additional sheets if necessary):

A new yogurt shop is to be constructed within an existing tenant space. The existing bathroom will be upgraded to become a unisex handicap accessible bathroom. New partitions will be erected to separate the customer space from the kitchen, office, & storage areas. Lighting, electrical, & HVAC will be reworked to accommodate the new layout. New finishes will be installed.

7. State each section of the Architectural Access Board's Regulations for which a variance is being requested:

7a. Check appropriate regulations:

1996 Regulations 2002 Regulations 2006 Regulations

SECTION NUMBER

30.7.1

LOCATION OR DESCRIPTION

Accessible Unisex Toilet Room Figure 30d

8. Is the building historically significant? yes no. If no, go to number 9.

8a. If yes, check one of the following and indicate date of listing:

- National Historic Landmark
- Listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places
- Located in registered historic district
- Listed in the State Register of Historic Places
- Eligible for listing

8b. If you checked any of the above **and** your variance request is based upon the historical significance of the building, you **must** provide a letter of determination from the Massachusetts Historical Commission, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02125.

9. For each variance requested, state in detail the reasons why compliance with the Board's regulations is impracticable (use additional sheets if necessary), including but not limited to: the necessary cost of the work required to achieve compliance with the regulations (i.e. written cost estimates); and plans justifying the cost of compliance.

The existing unisex bathroom is being upgraded to be accessible. Constraints due to the location of the existing tenant separation wall and the elevation and location of the existing plumbing drain are resulting in a layout that is other than 30.7.1 figure 30d. The proposed layout would meet the required clearances for the toilet as if it were in a stall. The sink would have the required clear floor space & be on an accessible route. All other applicable clearances for grab bars, toilet accessories, approach, turning, maneuvering clearance for door, and clear space will be satisfied.

To bring this bathroom into compliance w/ figure 30d would be a hardship on the tenant's business. The abutting tenant doesn't want the separation wall moved & the relocation of the bathroom would require it to be raised up because of the existing drain line elevation resulting in an added interior ramp ultimately reducing the tenant's useable floor area within a relatively small tenant space.

10. Has a building permit been applied for? Yes
 Has a building permit been issued? Yes
 10a. If a building permit has been issued, what date was it issued? Jan. 2013
 10b. If work has been completed, state the date the building permit was issued for said work: n/a
11. State the estimated cost of construction as stated on the above building permit: \$16,000
 11a. If a building permit has not been issued, state the anticipated construction cost:

12. Have any other building permits been issued within the past 36 months? no
 12a. If yes, state the dates that permits were issued and the estimated cost of construction for each permit: _____
13. Has a certificate of occupancy been issued for the facility? Unknown
 If yes, state the date: _____
14. To the best of your knowledge, has a complaint ever been filed on this building relative to accessibility? _____ yes no
15. State the actual assessed valuation of the **BUILDING ONLY**, as recorded in the Assessor's Office of the municipality in which the building is located:
\$511,700
 Is the assessment at 100%? no
 If not, what is the town's current assessment ratio? .95

16. State the phase of design or construction of the facility as of the date of this application:
Construction in progress & Demolition is complete

17. State the name and address of the architectural or engineering firm, including the name of the individual architect or engineer responsible for preparing drawings of the facility:

Gregory J. O'Connor Associates, Inc.

Attention: Greg O'Connor

339 Main Street, Suite 510

Worcester, MA 01608

e-mail: greg.oconnor@gjoassociates.com

telephone: (508) 757-1377

18. State the name and address of the building inspector responsible for overseeing this project:

David Horne

Building Inspector


City of Worcester

Department of Inspectional Services

25 Meade St.

Worcester, MA 01610

Date: 03/29/2013



Signature of owner or authorized agent

PLEASE PRINT:

Gregory J. O'Connor Associates Inc.

Greg O'Connor

Name

339 Main St.

Address

Worcester

MA

01608

City/Town

State

Zip Code

greg.oconnor@gjoassociates.com

E-mail

508-757-1377

Telephone

**ARCHITECTURAL ACCESS BOARD VARIANCE APPLICATION
SERVICE NOTICE**

I, _____, as _____
 for the Petitioner _____ submit a
 variance application filed with the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board on _____
 20 _____.

HEREBY CERTIFY UNDER THE PAINS AND PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT I SERVED OR CAUSED TO BE SERVED, A COPY OF THIS VARIANCE APPLICATION ON THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:

<u>NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON OR AGENCY SERVED</u>		<u>METHOD OF SERVICE</u>	<u>DATE OF SERVICE</u>
1	Building Inspector	Hand Delivered	
	25 Meade St. Worcester, MA 01610		
2	Independent Living Center Suite 345	Hand Delivered	
	484 Main St. Worcester, MA 01608		
3	Disability Commissioner, City Hall	Hand Delivered	
	455 Main St. Worcester, MA 01608		

AND CERTIFY UNDER THE PAINS AND PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE ABOVE STATEMENTS TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE ARE TRUE AND ACCURATE.

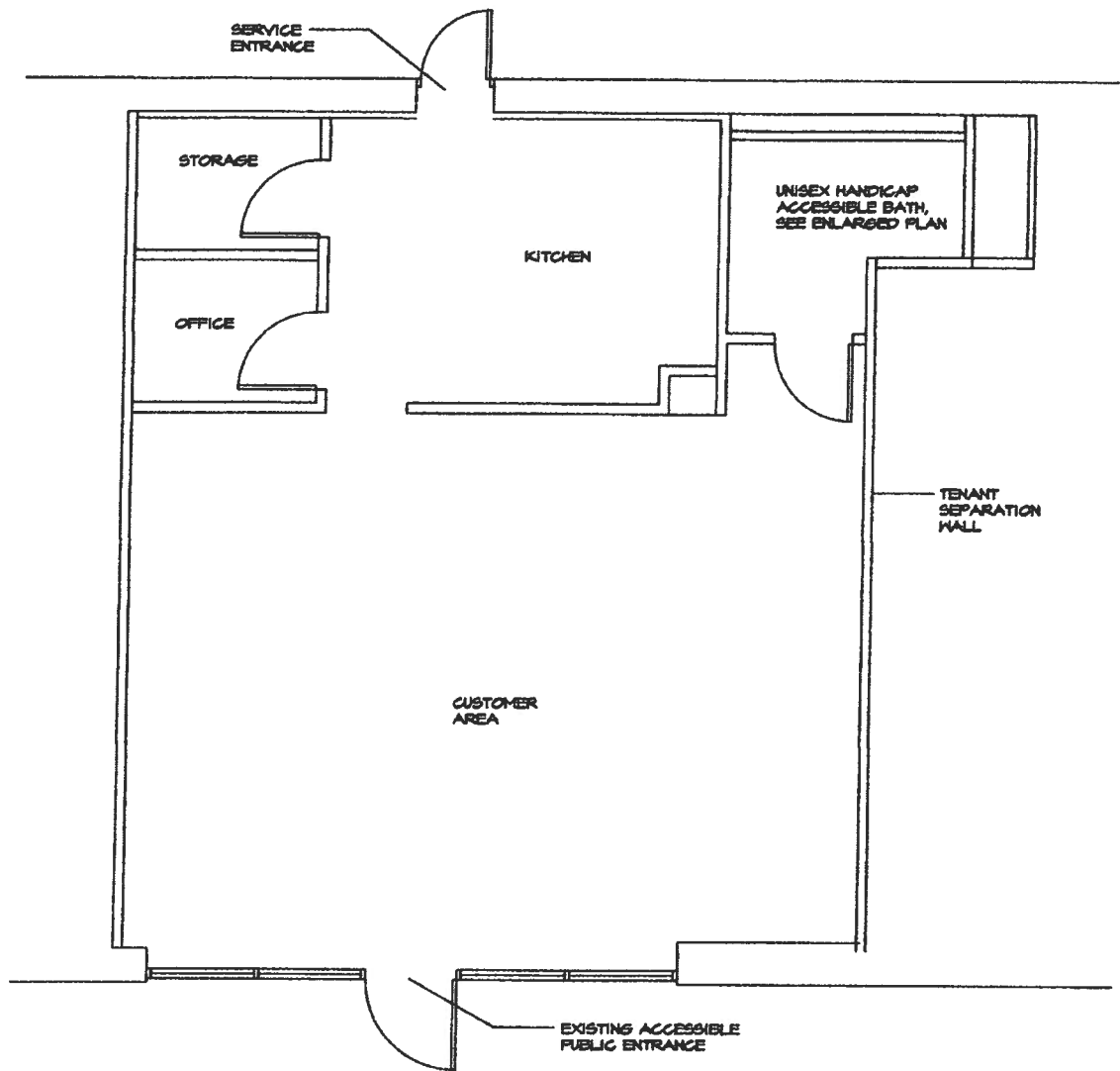
Signature: Appellant or Petitioner _____

On the _____ Day of _____ 20 _____
PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME THE ABOVE NAMED

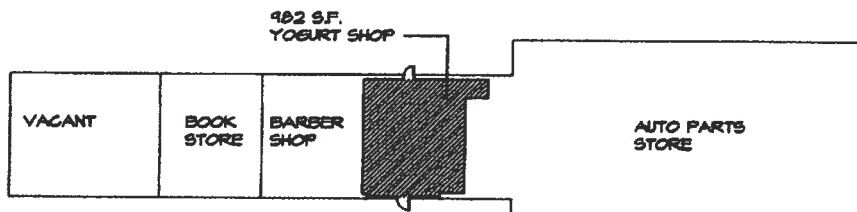
(Type or Print the Name of the Appellant) _____

NOTARY PUBLIC _____

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES _____

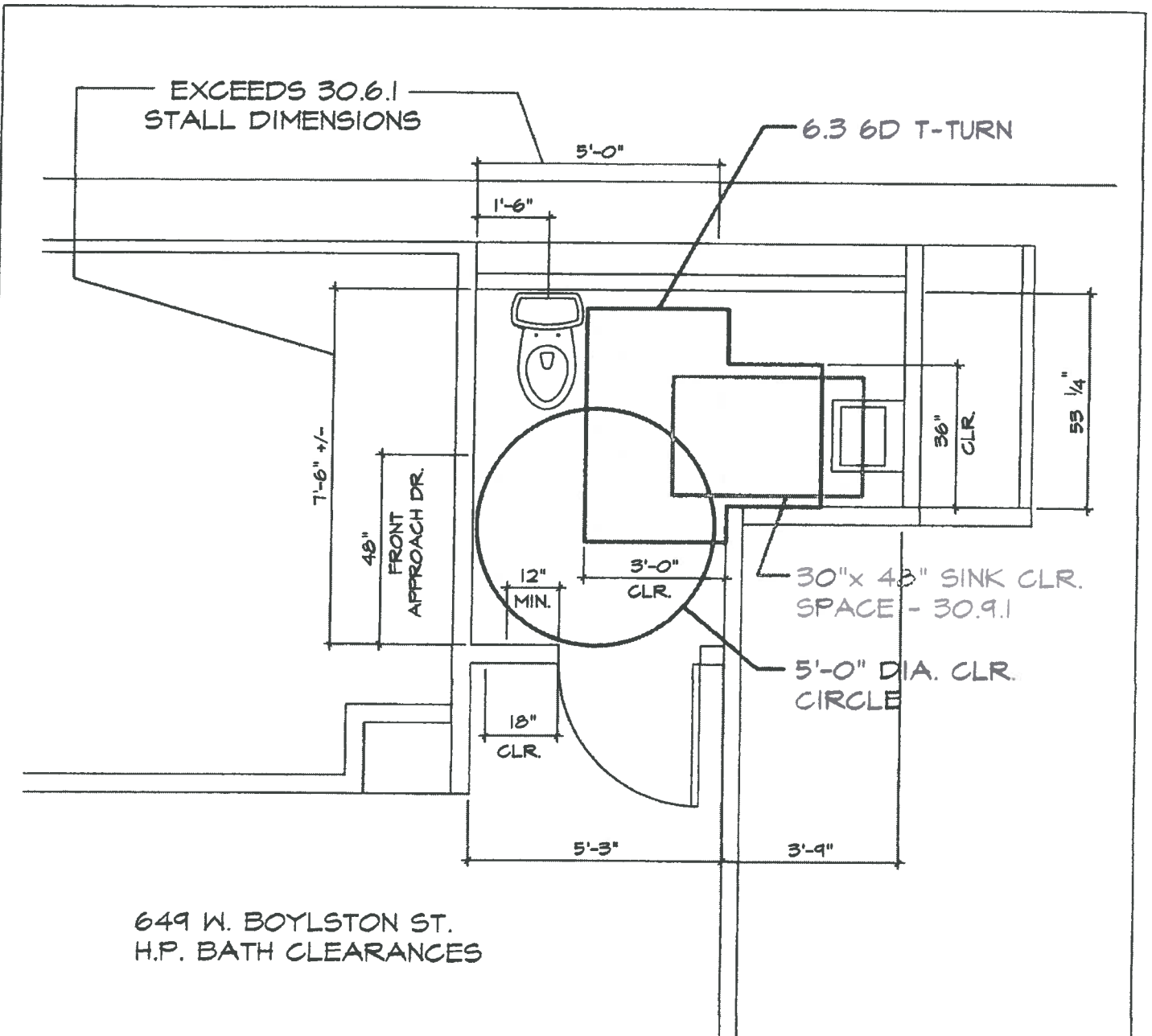


YOGURT SHOP FLOOR PLAN



RETAIL BLDG. KEY PLAN

<p>649 W. BOYLSTON ST. WORCESTER, MA JOB NUMBER 12-769</p>	<p>Gregory J. O'Connor Associates, Inc. ARCHITECTS 339 Main Street - Worcester, Massachusetts 01608</p>	<p>DATE: 3/29/2013</p>
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649 W. BOYLSTON ST.
H.P. BATH CLEARANCES

<p>649 W. BOYLSTON ST. WORCESTER, MA JOB NUMBER 12-769</p>	<p>Gregory J. O'Connor Associates, Inc. ARCHITECTS 339 Main Street · Worcester, Massachusetts 01608</p>	<p>DATE: 3/29/2013</p>
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Training Opportunity OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Introductory Architectural Plan Reading Workshop

Wednesday May 22, 2013 1-4:30pm

3rd Floor, Levi Lincoln Chamber
Worcester City Hall, 455 Main Street

Would you like to learn how to read architectural drawings? This free and open to the public workshop will teach you how to read architectural plans and introduce you to planning for accessibility issues.

Learning objectives

After taking this workshop you will be able to:

1. Identify sets of drawings
2. Interpret drawings
3. Begin to identify accessibility issues according to the Americans with Disabilities Act

Who should take this workshop?

- Advocates
- Individuals with disabilities and family members

Workshop presenter: Architectural Designer Meghan Dufresne, LEED AP from the New England ADA Center, a project of the Institute for Human Centered Design.

Hosted by the:



City of Worcester Commission on Disability

Limited space available, please rsvp by May 13th, 2013

By emailing clarkde@worcesterma.gov

Or calling 508-799-8483

To request an accommodation please mention this when you rsvp.