

MCOD Minutes- February 5,2026

1. Call to Order: 7:04
2. Motion to Approve the Agenda: Leah Santone, Ashley Gonzalez
3. Attendance: Ms. Lee, Mr. Hatch Mr. Gosselin, Ms Gonzalez, Ms Santos all present
*Deb Blood is no longer on the commission.
Mr McCormak, Ms Gachohu, and Ms Almonte are absent
4. Public Participation (Maximum 5 Minutes):
None
5. Approval of Minutes from previous meeting:
Eileen Lee, Kevin Hatch
6. Treasurer's Report:
Total funds as of this mont-150,382
Total expenses for the past month-7,500
7. ADA Coordinator's Report:
None, she was absent
8. See, Click, Fix Reports:
Ms Santos commended Mr Bowers, who quickly moved to assist a veteran who was stuck due to snow blocking a section of the sidewalk by the Loop.
- 9.Updates from the Methuen D.P.W: None at this time.
10. Old Business: Ms Gonzalez gave an update about the proposed disability awareness fair in July. Ms Reddard, the Merrimack Valley YMCA director said July 25 works. The have a large food drive that morning that serves almost 300 families. The commission thinks starting our fair at 11, when the food drive ends, would be the best. Ms Gonzalez will organize a time for

the commission can see the space and hopefully be able to have Ms Reddard join a meeting to have more information.

Mr McCormack was not present to give an update on the emergency preparedness event that is planned for April at the senior center.

Ms. Gonzalez asked if the commission would agree to using the title 'Yes We Can' for the event in July in honor of former commissioner, Jim Beagan who recently passed away. Mr Gosselin called for a vote and all commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Strengthening our partnership with CPAC was discussed.

The commission asked Ms Santos to lead in helping to update the commission's facebook page and website with Mr Hatch. We discussed how having more posts and social media presence would help us in reaching out further in the community and it will give members material to then repost on their personal facebook's to help spread the message as well.

No update from Ms Lee in regards to the app that helps to report illegal handicap parking violations to the Methuen PD.

11. New Business:

Ms Gonzalez commended the Tenney Grammar School for a new initiative they are implementing. The school currently has a ceremony monthly to honor students who are displaying positive qualities at school. It is also a moment kids to learn about emotional intelligence. At their past 2 assemblies, they have allowed students with disabilities to talk about their differences and the impact it has on them and the fact that we all have unique qualities that make us who we are. Ms Gonzalez requested an official letter of commendation for the school to help highlight their mission to create a more inclusive environment.

A moment of silence was held in honor of Jim Beagan, former Methuen Commission on Disability member as well as another city employee who passed away.

Ms Santos gave an update about the St Patrick;s Day Parade. They have planned to have spots with chairs and different places for anyone who may need rest and other accommodations to help make the parade more accessible

12. Any business for the good and welfare of the community?

13. Motion to Adjourn: Ms Gonzalez

14. Meeting Adjourned: 8:08