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**City of Melrose Commission on Disability (MCOB)
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: May 13, 2026

Commissioners Present:

Garin Boyd (Secretary)

Gary Hale (Chair)

David Hoff (Vice Chair)

Margaret Sheets

1. Call to Order

Commission Chair Hale called to order the regular meeting of the Commission on Disability at 7:15 PM.

2. Public Participation

Meaghan McDonough spoke during public participation about an incident at Mt. Hood clubhouse during a meeting at the Melrose Rec. department.

3. Approval of MCOB Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve April meeting minutes was made by Commissioner Sheets and seconded by Vice Chair Hoff. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. CODA/State Updates

There was not a CODA meeting for April. MOD has open office hours every third Wednesday at 3pm. MBTA/BCIL has a meeting May 27th from 2:00 – 4:00 pm to discuss the RIDE. Commission Chair Hale has written a letter to State Representative Lipper-Garabeidian to support a Wheelchair repair amendment to the Ways and Means budget. Rep Garabeidian supported the amendment, but it did not pass.

5. SEPAC

There is a SEPAC meeting Monday, May 20 at the Melrose High School Learning Center. This is the last meeting of the school year. The meeting topic is helping parents navigate resources.

6. Community Education Guide distribution and Arts and Culture Summit,

On April 11th, Commission Chair Hale and Commissioner Sheets presented the “Guide for Community Organizations” at the Creative Alliance Summit and it was well received. The next steps are mailing this to community organizations and determining other ways to get it out to organizations in Melrose.

7. High School work experience initiative

The Chamber of Commerce survey netted six responses from businesses in the community. The initiative will be restarted in September to try and engage businesses and potential students who would like to participate. Identifying students’ goals and approaching businesses with candidates and materials around this program may be valuable.

8. MOD/ADA Grant

Work on automatic doors at Hoover and Horace Mann schools was done during April vacation. Other grant-funded work will likely happen when school closes. MCOD and City of Melrose will not be applying for the grant this year. DPW would like recommendations on low budget items that can be fixed around Melrose including broken or missing curb cuts and signage.

9. Disability Pride Events

Commissioner Sheets gave an update regarding July Disability Pride month planning. Commissioner Sheets and Secretary Boyd will continue planning. Potential dates for Library story-time event could be July 23rd or 30th. Potential dates for a panel discussion at the Library, July 28th or 30th. Money for a YMCA Disability Pride mural is available. MCOD will vote next month on funding once cost is known. A press release should go out next month with the Disability Pride events schedule.

10. Other Business

- **Commissioner Sheets indicated that the Melrose Municipal Vulnerability Project** will be sending out a second survey. A public meeting will be held on May 20th from 7:00 - 8:30.
- Commission Secretary Boyd mentioned attending the annual meeting of the Bay State Council for the Blind.
- Commissioners discussed public comment and importance of clear entrances at public buildings.

11. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Vice Chair Hoff, seconded by Commissioner Sheets and approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned..

Meeting minutes submitted by Garin Boyd, Melrose Commission on Disability Secretary.