Meeting called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Nichole

1. **Roll Call:** Maria Luise, Nichole Mossalam, Kerlyne Pacombe, Frank Cina, Marilyn Andrews.

2. **Approval of minutes from the December 12, 2019 Commission Meeting:** Maria moved to approve the Minutes of the December 12, 2019 Commission Meeting. Frank seconded the motion. All were in favor.

3. **Representative from National Grid to discuss accessibility and other issues during site work.**
   Dan Cameron attended the Commission meeting in response to the November 25, 2020 letter that addresses gas line work and the concerns of the differently abled and the elderly. Dan Cameron shared the following:
   - A Capital Campaign is in process to get the old pipes out of the ground for the last 10 years. The main lines are being replaced and other service lines are being worked on at the same time.
   - National Grid is “very safety conscious.” They have police details where the police are responsible for making access safety for pedestrians.
   - There are several ways to let residents know of upcoming work. Door hangers are placed throughout the houses on the streets where the work is to be done. These door hangers are placed a couple of days in advance of the work.
   - Sometimes a “Grade One Leak” (emergency) may move National Grid workers from the original site and as a result, the re-lighting of the gas on the first job may not happen in a timely manner.
   - Central Dispatch takes the call to put the gas on. The original tech who does the work will put a request with Central Dispatch to put the gas on.
   - Matt Carmody is the Supervisor for National Grid Projects
   - People can call Central Dispatch to inform them of any special accommodations that may be needed by a resident while the gas lines work is being done.

4. **Any Updates and Action Items that need to be addressed from previous meeting.**
   - **Continued discussion and update on links and information to add to the website.** Ron Cochran will work on adding the links to the website after the “State of the City.” Commission will vote on the final list of links at the March 2020 meeting.
   - **Debrief on educational presentation given by the Massachusetts Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulations on January 9, 2020**
     Presentation was very informative. Robyn is willing to come back in the spring.
   - **Update on posting of 911 and distribution of notices for the hearing impaired to have available in vehicles and Update on Visor Cards for the Hearing Impaired:** Maria reported that the State sent 30 jackets with cards inside. Police officers will have these cards in their cruisers and can use them with the Deaf/Hard of Hearing community. Cards are also available at the Malden Police Station. Police Chief has done a video to social media to discuss the use of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing cards.
   - **Update on Grant:** Maria reported that Malden did not get the Planning Grant from the Mass Office on Disability. Maria shared that she will work with Debbie Burke, Executive Director of the Malden Redevelopment Authority. This will be discussed at the City
Council in late March/early April. Governor Baker has put aside money for “Best Practices in the Community” and this is the direction the Commission is looking.

- **Discussion about Collaboration with Schools.**
  Maria spoke with Malden School Committee members to assess parking situation and the number of handicap spaces. Maria reported that the city has reached the legally required minimum.

5. **New Business: Discussion of any new business and public comment.**
   - **Discussion of MBTA Needs Assessment as to Accessibility**
     Oak Grove (Orange Line) station to be starting shortly to make the station more handicap accessible. The Mayor and Debbie Burke (MRA) will be working with the MBTA on this. The MBTA has currently completed 7-8 bus stops. There are stops where there are parking spaces that will be lost. The issue of the parking space must go to the Traffic Commissioner to get approval. Ward Councilors are involved with the bus stops that are in their respective wards.
     Needs Assessment is the next step. Maria will provide the dates for this.
   - **Discussion of any new business and Public Comment**
     Marilyn shared that May is Mental Health Awareness Month and will bring materials to the March meeting for the Commission to review.
     Maria shared that July is the 30th Anniversary of the signing of the American with Disabilities Act. She suggested the possibility of having a program with awareness and extending an invitation to groups to participate.
     Nichole connected with a representative who has knowledge of the media. City Council is working on a link to have special requests, translations, accommodations, to access meetings. This would be upon request.

6. **Scheduling of Next Meeting:** Next Commission Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Malden Senior Center, 7 Washington Street.

7. **Adjournment:** Marilyn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Maria seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn R. Andrews, Clerk