PLAINFIELD ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
July 22, 2026

Present: Alicia Weiss, Chair; Dawn Fancher; Allison Joyal. **Absent:** Mary Lane, Andy Robinson (Select Board Liaison). **Guests:** Jaime Hammack

Call meeting to order: Called to order at 5:37 pm

Review, propose changes, adopt agenda: No changes to agenda, agenda adopted unanimously

Review/approve draft minutes of July 1, 2026: Minutes approved unanimously

Public Comment: None

Updates

The Committee has lost a member as Mitch has had to step out and will need to recruit a membership.

Alicia reported on the successful coordination of accessible seating at the Bread and Puppet Weekend films screenings, noting the very limited accessible parking access at Town Hall presented problems. To in part compensate for the installation of many artworks on the inaccessible 2nd floor "Community Center," Alicia posted a video of the paintings.

Walk Audit

Alicia reported on the July 15 Walk Audit of Plainfield's Route 2 corridor with staff of the Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program (RTCAP) of National Park Service. A significant percentage of sidewalks and paths of travel pose hazards for persons with vision and mobility impairments and are inaccessible for wheelchair users. (Some are also unsafe for able-bodied persons.) RTCAP staff were responsive to accessibility concerns and received ADA guidance materials from Alicia. Information from the event is being compiled.

Training Session Rescheduling Discussion

The Committee plans to move forward with Title II ADA training, with Kendra LaRoche from the Special Needs Support Center, now that the Town Office is fully staffed. Mid-September appears to work for Committee members; Alicia will contact Kendra to coordinate. It was agreed to invite participation of all Town Office staff, along with the

Select Board, Plainfield Arts member, constable, fire chief, new Emergency Manager, Library staff, and committee chairs.

Town Meeting Survey Review and Revision

The group discussed the latest survey questions and definitions for Plainfield resident data collection that Alicia posted on Google Drive.

Jaime submitted a number of suggested modifications using the AI model Vibe (Mistral). Dawn provided feedback, suggesting modifications to make certain questions more distinct while preserving clarity, and recommended adding clarification that public questions are different from budget votes. Questions about barriers to attendance were modified, including specific references to work and education conflicts, feeling safe in public meetings, and concerns about public voting, and a comment field was added for additional feedback.

It was agreed to move definitions to the end of the document. Definitions were refined, particularly around Australian ballot voting, with attention to the best way to describe the potential extended voting period and secret ballot aspects. The floor votes definition was edited to be more concise and accessible while preserving key information about secret voting options. Definitions were added for hybrid and deliberative meetings. Alicia will double-check with Peter about the types of items that may be added to Australian ballots, in addition to Town and school budgets and will revise the survey within 24 hours and share it with the group for review.

New membership: Jaime expressed interest in formally joining the Committee with approval of those present. Alicia will forward the matter to the Select Board.

Next meeting announced: August 5, 2026 Alicia will be out of the country on that date but will attempt to join. Dawn will handle meeting logistics, with Allison and Jamie potentially co-facilitating.

Adjourn meeting: Adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Alicia Weiss