

City of St. Catharines

Mayor's Advisory Committee on Accessibility (MACOA) MINUTES, Wednesday, April 23, 2014

A meeting of the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Accessibility was held on
Wednesday, April 23, 2014 in Committee Room #1
at City Hall at 1:30 p.m.

Present: Shelley Stewart, Co-chairperson
Diane Foster, Co-chairperson
Bob Asham
Chantal Barrette
Ian Crawford
Julie Morris
Linda Marie O'Hagan
David Reed
Mary Jane Waszynski

Regrets: Steve Byers
Steve Kurtic-Lentinello

Staff: Diana Lecinski, Accessibility Coordinator, CSS
Bonnie Turcotte, Elections Coordinator, CSS

Facility Accessibility Design Standards (FADS):

The FADS guideline was approved by the Region of Niagara in
September 2005 and adopted by the City of St. Catharines Council on April 24,
2006 for use in municipal facilities.

1. Call to order:

Shelley Stewart, co-chairperson called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. Introductions:

Everyone was welcomed and round table introductions were made.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes:

The minutes of the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Accessibility for March 26, 2014 were approved.

That the minutes of March 26, 2014 be approved.

Motion by: Julie Morris
Seconded by: Diane Foster

CARRIED

4. Presentations/Discussions

a. 2014 Municipal Elections; accessibility

Shelley Stewart welcomed Bonnie Turcotte, Election Coordinator again this month to provide an update on the municipal election. Bonnie Turcotte noted that the number of advance polls has been increased to ensure greater access and opportunity to vote. Each advance poll date will have 2 locations and each date will have a balanced selection of Ward locations. MACOA provided advice on which of the 2 advance poll locations would be most accessible for each date. There will be only 1 accessible voting tabulator so this input is helpful to determine the best choice for each advance poll date. MACOA suggested and supported a chartered bus service to Lock 3 Museum to enable this accessible site to be available as an advanced poll as well. Shelley Stewart thanked Bonnie Turcotte for her latest update.

5. Business Arising from Minutes:

- a. Accessibility Plan, MACOA's presentation to Council;
Diana Lecinski thanked MACOA reps Diane Foster, Chantal Barrette and Bob Asham for their excellent presentation of the 2013 year-end report to Council on April 14th. Each provided an update on their presentation and feedback at Council.

Central Library Plaza;

Diana Lecinski noted that renovations to the Library's outdoor plaza were also approved at April 14th's Council. MACOA has long advocated for these improvements that will greatly improve way-finding and accessibility. The designs were reviewed and endorsed.

Park Access Audit;

There has been a request for accessibility improvements at Shauna Park. Recreation and Community Services staff have asked MACOA to make an overall access audit of this park. Several MACOA reps offered to meet on-site on May 3 to review.

- b. AODA Provincial review, March 28 report;
Shelley Stewart and Diane Foster provided an update on this 5-year review of the AODA Act by provincially appointed Mayo Moran. Both noted the reviewers keen desire for input. There were many attendees from other municipalities and their AAC reps as well. Both co-chairpersons suggested that MACOA members use the public input opportunities to provide their concerns and thoughts on the AODA to the province.

6. Updates:

- a. Site plan review;
MACOA is reminded of the discussion opportunity with Planning & Development Services on June 25th. Staff will send a list of site plan addresses from 2012 and 2013 to help flag sites. MACOA is requested to provide any concerns and details to Diana Lecinski by May 16th so that she can get photos for MACOA to better discuss details with PDS staff during that meeting.
- b. DDRC, Bob Asham
No update.

c. Niagara ACC, Linda Marie O'Hagan

The Regional Council Chambers was recently renovated to improve access for speakers/presenters. MACOA suggested that the Region take note of the City's adjustable podium.

d. Other;

March of Dimes;

MACOA is reminded that the March of Dimes nominations are due shortly for the 2014 Breaking the Barriers Awards. Chantal Barrette is on the nomination review committee and strongly urged MACOA to share and promote nominations.

Staff needs to RSVP the number of attendees by the end of April, so will send out a MACOA email seeking member's RSVP. MACOA will also host their public information display.

MACOA suggested that May's meeting be cancelled in favour of attending the March of Dimes Awards the following week.

Moved by: Julie Morris

Seconded by: Bob Asham

That MACOA cancel its May 28th meeting due to attending the March of Dimes Breaking the Barriers Awards the following week on June 4th.

CARRIED

October election:

MACOA also noted that its October 22 meeting would conflict with the advanced poll dates. Diana Lecinski will be at all advanced polls with the accessible voting tabulator, therefore MACOA suggested this date also be cancelled.

Moved by: Linda Marie O'Hagan

Seconded by: Chantal Barrette

That MACOA cancel its October 22nd meeting due to date conflicts with election dates for the advance polls.

CARRIED

7. Next Meeting:

Wednesday, June 25, 2014 at **1:30pm** in Committee Room #1.

8. Adjournment:

The meeting of the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Accessibility adjourned.

Moved by: Diane Foster
Seconded by: Linda Marie O'Hagan

That this meeting do now adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

CARRIED