

# Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC)

## Minutes

Wednesday, March 23, 2016

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

City Hall, Burgoyne Woods Room

- Present: Diane Foster, Co-chairperson  
Bob Asham  
Ian Crawford  
Stacey Headey-Komenda  
Tracey Hrick  
Julie Morris  
Linda Marie O'Hagan  
Mary Jane Waszynski
- Regrets: Shelley Stewart, Co-chairperson  
Steve Byers  
David Reed
- Staff: Diana Lecinski, Accessibility Coordinator, CAO  
Christine Adams, Manager of Eng./Const., TES  
Lori Mambella, Program Supervisor, PRCS

# Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC)

## **1. Call the meeting to Order:**

Welcome from the Chair: Diane Foster at 1:30 p.m.

Roundtable introductions were made.

Diane Foster noted that February's AAC meeting was cancelled due to bad weather and lack of quorum.

## **2. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:**

Wednesday, January 27, 2016

Moved by: Bob Asham

Seconded by: Linda Marie O'Hagan

That the Minutes of January 27, 2016 be approved.

CARRIED

## **3. Presentation:**

Lori Mambella, Programs Supervisor, introduced the newest toys for the pre-school programs at the Russell Community Centre. The dolls have various disabilities and come with the associated assistive devices, guide dog, etc. Each doll comes with an information sheet of program suggestions for program leaders to engage interactive play or conversation regarding disabilities.

The dolls and their accompanying pieces were passed around the table for closer inspection.

Lori Mambella also took a moment to thank the membership of the AAC for the work and advocacy that they undertake and what it means to the City and PRCS programming perspectives.

Diane Foster thanked Lori Mambella for bringing the dolls and offering insight to the programming that PRCS undertakes.

## 4. Business Arising from Minutes:

### a. Accessibility Plan:

#### **2016-2020 Accessibility Plan:**

Moved by: Julie Morris

Seconded by: Linda Marie O'Hagan

That the 2016-2020 Accessibility Plan be endorsed by the Accessibility Advisory Committee for presentation to Council.

CARRIED

#### **2015 report on the 2013-2015 Accessibility Plan:**

Moved by: Linda Marie O'Hagan

Seconded by: Tracey Hrick

That the 2015 report on the 2013-2015 Accessibility Plan be endorsed by the Accessibility Advisory Committee for presentation to Council.

CARRIED

#### **Renewed Sidewalk Action Statement:**

Moved by: Ian Crawford

Seconded by: Julie Morris

That the Renewed Sidewalk Action Statement be endorsed by the Accessibility Advisory Committee for presentation to Council.

CARRIED

#### **AAC friendly reminder regarding sidewalk ad boards:**

Colour copies were handed out and circulated electronically to the AAC membership. This friendly reminder will be distributed as needed if a business's ad board blocks the sidewalk.

### b. Other:

**Social Sustainability Pillar**, previous meeting update: deferred

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**FADS status;** an updated FADS has not yet been adopted by Niagara Region. The AAC has asked that the Region be requested to update its current outdated FADS as soon as possible. The City continues to use and promote the use of FADS in new builds and renovations as well as promotion of best practices to the private sector. It is problematic when some content is outdated due to updates in the Ontario Building Code or other AODA Standards.

**City Hall access video;**

The access video of City Hall and Council Chambers (starring Diane Foster) was previously shown and other virtual tour plans discussed of City facilities, parks and trails.

**Certified for Access;**

A link was emailed to the AAC as FYI.

## 5. AAC Updates:

a. Site Plan;

Ian Crawford provided a brief update on the influx of site plans currently being circulated.

Bob Asham's previous request to provide staff with addresses of sites where signage is missing from accessible parking was revisited.

b. Community access and media;

Linda Marie O'Hagan provided an overview of several items;

- Niagara Region's website was updated to be more user-friendly
- A media story referred to accessible parking as disabled parking, however this term is better than using the term handicapped parking
- The AAC was reminded that Linda Crabtree, former AAC member, writes an excellent weekly article about accessibility in the St. Catharines Standard
- Various Council reports continue to frequently refer to accessibility as a factor of consideration

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### c. City Projects, Christine Adams, TES;

- Various upcoming projects were noted and reviewed
- Sidewalk construction and repair will start soon and will include; upgrades for accessibility at adjacent bus stops, 2 on-street accessible parking spaces at Montebello Park, ramps at the bus lay-by at the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre as part of the next phase of the downtown streetscape
- Christine Adams was asked about the railing/gap issue previously noted during the site visit. She will follow-up with Dan Dillon.

### d. CNIB Night Steps, Julie Morris;

Julie Morris informed the AAC that the 2016 CNIB awareness and fundraising 5 km walk will take place on Saturday, May 14 at 5 pm. Staff will circulate a poster with details on this event.

## 6. Next Meeting

Wednesday, April 27 @ 1:30 p.m. in the Burgoyne Woods Room.

Chair: Shelley Stewart

## 7. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Moved by: Bob Asham

Seconded by: Ian Crawford

That this meeting is adjourned.

CARRIED