

Accessibility Advisory Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Meridian Room, Seymour Hannah Sports & Entertainment Centre

at 1:30 p.m.

Attendance:

Diane Foster, Co-chairperson
Bob Asham
Barbara Legg
Bob Mahony
David Reed
Amy Romeo
Mary Jane Waszynski

Regrets:

Shelley Steward, Co-chairperson
Ian Crawford
Tracey Findlay
Melissa Abrams
Linda Marie O'Hagan

Staff Representatives:

Linda Murray, Administrative Assistant, Corporate Support Services (CSS)
Chantal Switzer, Manager Human Resources
Christine Adams, Manager Engineering & Construction, Transportation & Environmental Services (TES)
Ally Fast, Downtown Market and Event Coordinator
Rebecca Alfieri, Elections Coordinator, Legal and Clerks Services

Guests:

Karen Natho, Brock Niagara Penguins

1. Call meeting to order:

Diane Foster called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

2. Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting

Wednesday, March 28, 2018

Moved by: Bob Asham

Seconded by: Barbara Legg

That the Minutes of March 28, 2018 be approved.

CARRIED

3. Discussions / Presentations:

3.1 Brock Niagara Penguins, Karen Natho

Information on programs and outreach

Action: LM - Brock University Power Up 2021 info sent out to committee members.

BA – do you have people to help in and out of chair?

KN – We have a high number of volunteers that can assist if needed.

3.2 2018 Municipal Elections, Rebecca Alfieri

As in the 2014 election; vote anywhere in your ward! If one polling station is not accessible you can choose to go to another polling station within your ward.

Transit has approved an additional route that will travel down Welland Canals Parkway – starting September 4th

Advanced Polls will be available in the Atrium on the 3rd Floor of City Hall from October 1, 2018 to October 19, 2018 (Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 4:00pm). These polls are completely accessible.

The Candidate Packages have more information than in previous years due to new legislation that has been implemented for the 2018 election and the Candidate's Guide has an accessible section as well as the AMTCO Candidates Guide to Elections is included.

You can check to see if you are on the voter list through this link:
<https://www.voterlookup.ca/home.aspx>

More information on the Municipal Elections can be found on our City website <https://www.stcatharines.ca/en/governin/municipal-election-2018.asp>

2018 Provincial Elections

You should receive your Provincial Elections voter card in the mail shortly, they are being mailed out May 15, 2018 to May 25, 2018.

You can find more information on the Provincial Elections
<https://www.elections.on.ca/en.html>

4. Business arising:

4.1 Accessibility Plan;

2017 Accessibility Report presentation to Council by
Diane Foster and Bob Mahony

DF- we made a presentation to Council on May 7, 2018, it went well, we distributed the new FADS document and Accessibility Plan.

DF – we are advocating funds for paratransit driver;
the vehicle is available we need a driver;
Council will look into it.

4.2 AAC presentation of the Museum's one-five-oh submission on the Burgoyne Bridge to TES

Canada 150 submission to museum;

Presentation of Burgoyne bridge framed picture to TES c/o Christine Adams

4.3 FADS;

Available on the City's website, promo with AAC, PBS, TES, and hardcopies are available upon request

Action: LM Copy of FADS next meeting

4.4 Other; - Sunset Beach Master Plan initiative;

Staff will update and/or invite lead staff to an upcoming AAC meeting

Action: Deferred

4.5 Older Adult Forum/Seniors Day, June 11,9-2;

AAC table for accessibility promo, RSVP confirmed.

Confirm volunteers; Diane Foster, Bob Mahony, Linda Marie O'Hagan and any transportation requests

Simone Phelan, Older Adult Coordinator will have tables set up.

5. AAC updates:

5.1 Media updates; previously distributed with the agenda package

Action: deferred

5.2 TES updates; Christine Adams

CA- it is construction season.

CA - Bus stop upgrades, should be finished this year.

CA- tactile warning plates at sidewalk ramps; after a couple years of attempting to install the tactile warning plates as per the Committee's preferred orientation, TES staff continue to report that it is difficult to place the plates close to the curb and also achieve directionality for the cross-walk in many instances. Most concerns arise at corners with cross-walks in two directions and are worse at those where the sidewalks are located relatively close to the curb. In those cases for example the tactile warning plate for the east / west direction will sit in the path of the north/south sidewalk. To avoid this conflict would place the plates so far from the curb that no longer will act as a warning that one is near the transition from the sidewalk to the travelled.

CA – TES proposing match the provincial standard drawings and build environment guideline; that is to follow the curve of the curb rather than orient tactile plates with a cross-walk.

DF – someone who is blind, might have difficulty knowing which direction they are heading.

MJW – maybe CNIB would have some insight on this issue. Mobility instructors for the CNIB teach people in those tools.

CA – Hamilton is using coloured impressed concrete with troweled “blind lines”. However, Diana Lecinski has viewed and she was not in favour of

that option. Nor is Diana in favour of a combination of cast iron tactile warning plates with troweled “blind lines”.

DF- if someone is totally blind they rely on something to give them direction. Round corner they have no idea which direction they are crossing.

Action: CA - call Shelley Steward.

CA - facilities are doing renovations at Russell Avenue Community Centre to install accessible washroom.

(Construction window July 1 to Labour Day)

Ontario Street Garage elevators will be shut down over the summer.

DR – what are the sidewalk rules? What’s the rules for patio furniture on St. Paul.

CA – for locations with wide sidewalks, there are two options for a patio; it may be adjacent to the building or out at the curb in the furniture zone. The LCBO licensing was changed a few years ago and now permits both alternatives. The City does try to maintain minimum clear zones for a path of travel.

BA – is the city checking for permits.

Action: CA - Check on specifics of the sidewalk patio license process. (CA with Transportation Services)

DF – Public education flyer for downtown merchants.

Diana sent it to Downtown Association to keep sidewalks clear.

Action: LM - send out Scott Ritchie email.

5.3 Site Plan updates; no report

DR – if there are site plan updates; who are they going to? What format should our comments be in?

Action: CS - to check on format of comments

5.4 Hospital AAC updates; Bob Asham, Shelley Stewart

BA – meeting canceled until Aug. no update until Sept.

6. New Business:

6.1 Why do you have to pay for tennis courts on at Realty Park on Vine St.? - MJW

Inaccessible for some families.

CA – could be the quality of the court, they could qualify for subsidies

BA – they should reach out to their area councilor.

AR. – hard for some people to get to a free court in another area of the city.

Action: Linda to contact Lori Mambella for answer.

7. Date of next meeting

Wednesday June 27, 2018

1:00 p.m. tour of the Kiwanis Aquatics Centre, 425 Carlton St.

1:30 p.m call to order in the Locke meeting room.

NOTE: June 27 and September 26 AAC meetings will be off-site as requested by the AAC and listed on the 2018 AAC meeting schedule.

8. Motion to Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Moved by: Bob Asham

Seconded by: David Reed

That this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED