

Minutes

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

St. Catharines Museum at 1:30

Attendance:

Diane Foster, Co-chairperson
Shelley Stewart, Co-chairperson
Melissa Abrams
Bob Asham
Ian Crawford
Tracey Findlay
Amy Romeo
Mary Jane Waszynski

Absent:

Barbara Legg
Bob Mahony
David Reed
Linda Marie O'Hagan

Staff Liaison:

Linda Murray, Administrative Assistant, Corporate Support Services (CSS)
Christine Adams, Manager of Engineering and Construction
Transportation & Environmental Services (TES)

Guests:

Michelle Sanders
Sarah Fraser, Program and Audience Coordinator, PAC

1. **Call meeting to order (Chair)**

Diane Foster called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

2. **Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting**

Wednesday June 27, 2018

Moved by: Bob Asham

Seconded by: Tracey Findlay

That the Minutes of June 27, 2018 be approved.

CARRIED

2.1 Round Table Introductions

2.2 Social Sustainability Pillar Meeting Update: Diane Foster

Not for profit organizations can apply for park fees to be waived; if approved a portion of the fees will be waived.

2.3 Sidewalk Action Statement Meeting Update: Diane Foster

Attended council meetings twice to address citizens of new subdivisions requesting council to remove sidewalks from the plan.
SS – staff have been great on backing us on this issue by following the plan.

DF – AAC will need to address this again.

BA – has the city adopted the sidewalk policy?

SS – yes, the sidewalk action statement

CA – in the City's Official Plan; sidewalks shall be installed on both sides of an arterial or collector road and sidewalks shall be installed on both sides of a local road where feasible.

3. **Discussions / Presentations Michelle Sanders (citizen)**

3.1 Recommendation for a Recreational Inclusivity and Accessibility Plan

Two new parks Wise Guys Park, Wilfrid Laurier Crescent, St.

Catharines, ON L2P 0A1 and Roehampton Park, 55 Roehampton

Ave, St. Catharines, ON L2M 7L4, are not inclusive. My son has to

climb to do anything in the park.

Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act. (AODA) doesn't define what accessibility is? The act doesn't define what it means to be inclusive.

I would like to ask the City to create a policy to standardize an inclusive design of parks across the Region.

SS – we have two newly built parks that are not accessible?

MS – yes two new parks this year

SS – the older parks will take time to retrofit but that is poor if they are new parks.

MLW – maybe we need to chat with the PRCS staff to look at the plans.

CA – generally the City issues requests for proposal for play ground structures which are independent of the construction tender for a park. The requests for proposals for playground structures include a general description of what features the City's desires for that park including if accessible features must be included. Sometimes an upset budget is provided and bidders submit a proposal which suits their products. There would be no time for the ACC to review those proposals before an RFP is rewarded. CA recommends the ACC establish recommendations or guidelines or FADs spec's rather than reviewing individual sites.

BA – would this be something to have added to the report to council in 2019?

MJW – maybe a playground accessibility component to the FADS Document?

Motion: Invite Stuart Green and Michelle Sanders to the meeting on October 24, 2018 for discussion regarding a possible policy to standardize and inclusive design of parks across the Region.

Moved by: Bob Asham

Seconded by: Shelley Stewart

4. **AAC Updates:**

4.1 TES Updates; Christine Adams

Thank you Diane Foster for meeting with Jim Riddell, Director of Planning and Building Services and speaking to Council, regarding the installation of sidewalks in new developments.

Council has recently directed staff to reconstruct one block of Lorne Street. Council directed staff to include full height barrier curbs in place of semi-mountable curbs. This was against staff's recommendation and contrary to the ACC's endorsement of semi-mountable curbs adjacent to sidewalks on low volume, narrow allowances. The new sidewalk will "wobble" up and down at the sidewalks rather than a constant grade and cross fall.

Updating concerns raised by Diane Foster:

- a) The traffic signal at Queenston St. and Oakdale Ave. – the position activation button was on the wrong side of the pole – has been corrected.
- b) The Region and City met to discuss the locator noise level on traffic signals on Queenston at Oakdale and at Prince is too low. It will be increased this week.

Nick Rosati from Niagara Region has offered to give the committee a presentation on the Region's Traffic Signal standards.

Action: LM – invite Nick Rosati, Region to meeting scheduled on November 28, 2018.

4.2 Site Plan Updates; David Reed, Ian Crawford

Nothing to update

4.3 Hospital AAC Updates; Bob Asham, Shelley Stewart

We met in August and discussed ideas for on-line training for customer service.

Washroom signs are not raised or braille

Service animals are becoming a problem for guide dogs because of fake service animals

Cafeteria tables need to be updated, I have found a table that is inclusive for all, I will pass on the manufacturer information.

5. **Business Arising:**

5.1 Amendment to previous minutes from June 27th, 2018.

MJW – has concerns with approving mulch-rubber combo playgrounds; strongly does not recommend it.

SS – we endorsed it for directly under the structure, the pathways would be rubber.

Action: invite S. Green back to the next meeting to clarify.

5.2 Advance Accessible Election Poll at City Hall from October 1 to October 19, 2018.

5.3 Sarah Fraser PAC – “This is the Point” a play by Ahuri Theatre, is at the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre downtown St. Catharines February 14-16, 2019. FirstOntarioPAC is planning to have an ASL sign language show, an audience described show and community talk-back lead by a local community member, specific dates TBA. Contact FirstOntarioPAC Program & Audience Coordination Sarah Fraser 905 688 5601 x 3617 | sfraser@stcatharines.ca for more information.

In November 2018, Ahuri Theatre would like to hold a two-hour **workshop to create an interactive photo exhibit created with people who experience disability**. The photo exhibited at the Performing Arts Centre, February 2019. We are looking to connect with an established local group, of around 15 people, who would like to participate in the free workshop with the artists from Ahuri Theatre.

5.4 AR – looking for an update on the bus stop at the smart centres property on Fourth Ave.

Action: LM – to reach out to Transit and Smart Centres

6. **Date of next meeting**

Wednesday October 24, 2018

Burgoyne Woods Room, City Hall.

7. **Motion to Adjourn:**

Meeting was adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

Moved by: Bob Asham

Seconded by: Mary-Jane Waszynski

That this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED