

Accessibility Advisory Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Burgoyne Woods Room, City Hall at 1:30 pm

Attendance:

Invited	Name	Title
Present	Shelley Stewart	Co-chairperson
Present	Diane Foster	Co-chairperson
Present	Melissa Abrams	Member
Present	Bob Asham	Member
Absent	Ian Crawford	Member
Present	Tracey Findlay	Member
Present	Barbara Legg	Member
Absent	Bob Mahony	Member
Absent	Linda Marie O'Hagan	Member
Absent	David Reed	Member
Absent	Amy Romeo	Member
Present	Mary Jane Waszynski	Member
Absent	Councillor Phillips	Social Pillar
Absent	Councillor Sorrento	Social Pillar

Staff Liaison:

Katrina Greenizan, Human Resources Representative, CSS

Christine Adams, Manager of Engineering and Construction, Transportation & Environmental Services

1. Call meeting to order

Call to order by Shelley-1:41PM

Welcome from the Chair

2. Round Table Introductions

Everyone who attended introduced themselves

2.1 Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting:

Date: November 28, 2018

Moved by: Barbara Legg

Seconded by: Melissa Abrams

Add: Diana Lecinski, Accessibility Co-ordinator with Corporate Support Services, is retiring end of January. If possible, would like to get the notes that she presented at the meeting.

3. Discussions / Presentations:

Niagara Region, Nick Rosati; Vanessa Bilodeau

Pedestrian Considerations at Traffic signals

Nick Rosati is Traffic Systems Program Manager

Vanessa Bilodeau is Traffic Operations Technologist

Presenters are grateful to be able to present. It is a big help to be able to do this to get a better understanding of what is needed

Slide 1-Intersection Safety Considerations

Slide 2-Traffic Signal Design and Operating Standards

Slide 3-Traffic Signal Design Considerations

Slide 4- Pedestrian Signals

Diane Foster noted St. Catharines has 3rd largest senior population in Ontario and questioned the typical signal duration. Nick clarified one can start on the Walk interval ("solid" man) but does not need to finish before the "flashing" Don't Walk appears. Pedestrian signal lengths are set based on 1.5 times the length to get across (ministry tested for how long it takes)

Shelley Stewart said this is great to know to share the knowledge to others.

Slide 5-Pedestrian Timing Calculations

Slide 6- Accessible Pedestrian Signals or APS

Slide 7-Accessible Pedestrian Signal or APS

Slide 8-APS Installations in Niagara

Slide 9-APS Operation

Tracey Findlay question, if someone new moves to a neighborhood, will it automatically be there or have to let know? And answer: if it is installed, will already do it, don't have to let them know

Diane Foster commented her service dog is trained to push buttons but not to hold down for 5 seconds. Her concern being that it would be difficult for a dog to be trained to do that. Also, traffic poles are located where it is hard to use if one has a reach limitation. Nick acknowledged that the AODA is new, and not all locations have been updated as funding has not been available. Shelley spoke up how this is a learning curve and that new intersections have been beautifully put in, and just takes time for it to be updated everywhere.

Shelley Stewart says having a hard time knowing if activated, if it vibrates, you have activated it (Vanessa confirmed yes to this question)

Slide 10-Pedestrian Walk Signal

Slide 11-Pedestrian Clearance (Flashing Hand)

Slide 12-Solid Don't Walk

Slide 13- Current APS Installations

Barbara Legg stated favourite crossing is by Performance Art Centre (St. Paul Street at Garden Park)

Mary Jane Waszynski: noted a new Pedestrian Cross Over (PXO) was installed on Vine Street. Asked if any issues with it and Nick and Vanessa said haven't heard anything.

Shelley Stewart said she heard about the one at the Performance Art Centre and that some drivers are still learning and not understanding

Nick said the Pedestrian Crossovers regulations new and people are still learning the difference between a Crosswalk (in an intersection) and a Crossover.

Mary Jane Waszynski-raised her previously noted concerns about Ontario Street at Scott Street because she has a client on Scott Street whom she meets at McDonalds. Access for her client is not good.

Christine Adams responded that the sidewalk has been installed. Ray Vachon, TES Project Supervisor was invited to join meeting and provided an update of which new sidewalks were installed on the west side of Ontario Street near Scott

Street. (used Google maps to explain exactly where). Nick asked if put tactile pads in. Shelley confirmed the city would of automatically do it.

Mary Jane Waszynski - thank you to Christine Adams and the TES Project Supervisor, Ray Vachon for installing the sidewalk on Ontario St. and Scott Street.

Diane Foster said Thank you to the presenters to make the signals consistent and accessible. Shelley Stewart said she is glad when everything that is new being put in, it is making everything easier and accessible

Diane Foster gave the presenters the Abilities magazine

Presenters said thank you for the feedback and listening to the presentation

Nick said if anyone has any questions, feel free to contact

Nick would like the minutes sent to him

4. **AAC Updates:**

Shelley Stewart feeling great about the continuity that is being developed and thrilled with the presentation

4.1 **TES Updates: Christine Adams**

a. Update on 2019 construction program and potential 2019 construction locations: suggested postponing until February as Capital Budget not yet passed.

b. requested input raise by Facilities team. There is a location in town (Performance Art Centre, main floor, family style, accessible bathroom) that has an automatic unlock feature after 20 minutes in addition to a duress alarm. Should the City leave this feature active?

Mary Jane Waszynski stated depends as there are a lot of overdoses happening in St.Catharines right now

Bob Asham stated if the lock is close enough to the toilet, put a feature there which could relock again for another 20 mins. Most agree that is a good idea If a relock is not possible would the committee prefer not have this feature at all?

Mary Jane Waszynski asked if it open to public, you only have so much time to help someone who has overdose. St.Catharines is in a crisis with overdose

Tracey Findlay-about the senior population, on the toilet and can just pass out, so good to have the automatic unlock at 20 mins

Committee is in favour to have an automatic unlock feature and confirmed 20 minutes is a reasonable amount of time.

Shelley asked if a lot of complaints, and Christine said only 1 individual.

Mary Jane Waszynski excused herself to go to another meeting (3:05pm). Lost Quorum.

Christine Adams suggested to City could install signs that warn a door will

automatically unlock in 20 mins and all agreed

- 4.2 Site Plan Updates: David Reed, Ian Crawford
Not here to be able to provide update
- 4.3 Hospital AAC Updates: Bob Asham, Shelley Stewart
Bob Asham- previous meeting was 2 weeks ago. For the most part, went over the review of the year. Didn't have a lot to say.
Shelley Stewart asked if signage at the public bathrooms on main floors by elevator had been modified to include braille or raised lettering. Bob said it should be done now.
Barbara Legg asked what the mandatory guidelines is to have for private businesses, Shelley Stewart doesn't know for sure the guidelines but to explain to businesses this will give them more business. As private citizens need to explain the benefit of this and express it.

5. **New Business:**

Diane brought Abilities magazine for all to take

recruitment fair at end of January at Kiwanis

February last meeting for Shelley as Co-Chair and committee member.

Shelley said she will be here in February for quorum

Tracey asked as she won't be here in February, if current committee will continue and what will happen when new committee comes on. Linda will have communication sent out

6. **Date of next meeting:**
Wednesday, February 27, 2019
Burgoyne Woods Room, City Hall

7. **Motion to Adjourn:** Don't have quorum so Chair has to call it

Shelley Stewart adjourned it

Moved by:

Seconded by: