

## Minutes

**Wednesday, June 22, 2022**

**Electronic Meeting at 1:30pm**

### **Attendance:**

Michelle Sanders, Diane Foster, Gilles Marceau, Matthew Goodman, David Reed, Bob Asham, Kate Wiley, Dan McKnight

### **Absent:**

Barb Legg, Jasmin Olah

### **Guests:**

Paul Carfagnini – Manager, Facilities and Energy  
Ken Su – CEO, St. Catharines Public Library

### **Staff Liaison:**

Megan Detlor – Human Resources Consultant Accessibility

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

Chair Michelle Sanders called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

#### **2. Recognition of Traditional Territories**

Megan Detlor acknowledged that the land on which the Accessibility Advisory Committee meets today is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Peoples. Acknowledging this is a reminder that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous people.

#### **3. Amendments to the Agenda**

Tax bills  
Happy Rolph's

#### **4. Motion to approve the agenda**

Moved by: Dan McKnight Seconded by: Bob Asham  
That the June 22, 2022, agenda of the Accessibility Advisory Committee be approved.

**Carried**

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

Moved by: Gilles Marceau Seconded by: Dan McKnight

That the May 25, 2022, minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee be approved.

**Carried**

6. **Declarations of Interest - none**

7. **Presentations (invited guests)**

*Ken Su – St. Catharines Library* – Back in 2019 the library engaged a company to do a space audit to determine if central library has enough space for population. Also included was layout and accessibility as the library was built in 1970's with nothing major completed since then. A detailed design on any improvements has not yet been initiated, will be a multi-year project.

*Question* – some designs were shared and recall this being brought to council- yes this was from the initial space audit and conceptual designs not yet finished so do not have any budget information.

*Matthew* – workspace for employees in basement, is it accessible? Would like to point out need to consider accessibility for the employees as well.

*Diane* – please keep in mind the height of the shelving, too high or too low is not ideal for people using wheelchairs. Also, ensure service counters are at an appropriate height.

*Dan* – also look at services people with disabilities are using – audio book, listening stations, braille, etc.

*Michelle* – would love AAC to be included when its closet to planning and design stage, also would like universal washroom with adult change table considered in design.

Ken Su – left the meeting at 3:01 p.m.

8. **Business**

a. **9.1 – June 13, 2022 Council meeting** – update from Michelle

Council approved to repave Grantham Rail Trail.

There was a motion put forward to re-open the discussion on this despite contractors already being hired. Council voted 8-5 not to re-open a discussion, and to go forward with plans

b. **9.2 – Older buildings downtown** – as mentioned in previous meeting when Planning and Building department presented, we have some accessibility issues with older buildings downtown. What can we do to promote accessibility?

- i. Making downtown BIA aware of issue, working on letter with Economic Development department to distribute to businesses

about the benefits of improving accessibility for their business.  
Michelle to send draft.

- ii. Check in on the recognition program idea from previous annual workplan
- c. **9.3 – Tax bills** – question from Matthew as to whether we can get information as to how tax dollars are used to support accessibility? Megan – would be difficult to get accurate information other than the amount on the budget line that is specifically allotted to accessibility, but this wouldn't include any of the money used in Engineering for buildings / sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, etc.
- d. **9.4 – Bike lanes** – issue was raised about pilons on road to separate bike lane from road, in one space on Westchester there was a bus stop impacted issue is that pilons didn't seem to be on most dangerous part of the road where a cyclist could be hit. Issue is since resolved.
- e. **9.5 – Happy Rolph's** – available parking spaces are limited and people parking at private businesses which raises accessibility issues. No public transit, no sidewalks, insufficient amount of accessible spaces. Will connect with Community Recreation and Culture Services (CRCS) and by-law to make aware and see if there is anything that can be done or any plans already underway.  
Gilles pointed out that maybe member of Council should be involved.  
Transit there has been an issue for year and not sure how the move to regional transit will affect this?

#### 9. **Date of next meeting**

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

#### 10. **Motion to Adjourn**

Moved by: Matthew Goodman Seconded by: Dan McKnight

That the June 22, 2022, AAC meeting be adjourned at 3:08 pm

**Carried**