

The meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, September 21, 2017 in Council Chambers, 395 Mulock Drive, Newmarket.

Members Present: Steve Foglia (Chair)  
Linda Jones  
Kelsy McIntosh  
Councillor Bisanz  
Sharron Cooke

Absent: Richard Wilson  
Jeremy Slessor

Staff Present: K. Saini, Deputy Clerk  
H. Leznoff, Council/Committee Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM.

Steve Foglia in the Chair.

### **Additions and Corrections to the Agenda**

None.

### **Presentation and Deputations**

#### 1. Accessible Washrooms

Mrs. Brenda Munroe made a deputation to the Committee. She discussed recent challenges she faced with finding washrooms that are fully accessible in local restaurants. The Committee discussed Building Code requirements relating to accessibility. The Committee further discussed ways of identifying and promoting accessible businesses so that customers can be made aware of the possible accessible features and barriers of a restaurant or business before arriving.

## Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

None

## Approval of Minutes

2. Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of June 22, 2017.

Moved by: Councillor Bisanz  
Seconded by: Kelsy McIntosh

1. That the Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of June 22, 2017 be approved.

**Carried**

## Items for Discussion

3. New Committee Member

The Committee welcomed the new member of the Committee, Kelsy McIntosh. Kelsy introduced herself to the Committee and provided background information on her work experience relating to accessibility.

4. Internet voting

The Deputy clerk provided a summary of internet voting and gathered the Committee's feedback. Discussion ensued regarding communication plans and ensuring the link is prominent and clear on the homepage of the Town's website, screen brightness, text to speech software, print size, what information could be used to communicate the voting process, the potential to present to the Residence Council for various long term care facilities, an ASL video as part of the communication strategy, and the locations for voting assistance centres.

The Deputy Clerk advised that a demo of the internet voting solution would be brought back to the Committee when available.

5. Downtown Newmarket

The Council/Committee Coordinator and Deputy Clerk provided an update regarding the motion made by the Committee for Council to review ways to make the entrances to downtown as accessible as possible. The Council/Committee coordinator advised that a staff working group will meet to research options and best practices and report back to the Committee. There was discussion regarding consultation with other stakeholders including the Main Street District Business Improvement Board of Managers.

#### 6. Council Chambers Update

The Applications Support Analyst provided the Committee with a summary of the Audio Visual enhancements made to the Council chambers including display monitors, microphones, sound systems etc. He also provided an overview of the assisted listening devices that are available in the Council Chambers. He further discussed the potential for additional enhancements in the future to incorporate with new technology. He further provided information on the A/V improvements being made to Cane A&B and the Mulock Room.

#### 7. Old Town Hall Facility Audit

The Committee confirmed that they will be conducting a facility audit of the Old Town Hall on Monday, October 23 at 10:30 AM.

#### 8. Workplan Discussion

The Council/Committee Coordinator circulated an updated version of the Workplan and discussion of the workplan was deferred until the next Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting, scheduled for November 16, 2017.

#### 9. National Access Awareness Week Discussion

The Committee discussed National Access Awareness week event planning and the option for creating a sub-committee for this purpose. The item was then deferred to the next Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting, scheduled for November 16, 2017.

#### 10. Committee Vacancy

The Council/Committee coordinator advised that the Town would move forward with advertising for the current vacant position on the Committee and that the recruitment process should be complete before the next Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting, scheduled for November 16, 2017.

11. The Evolution of Accessibility - Film

The Committee watched the evolution of Accessibility Film and discussed the message of the film and how it could be used as an education tool.

**New Business**

12. Accessible Transportation

Sharron Cooke provided an update regarding her work related to accessible transportation services. There was discussion regarding the transportation offered by CHATS and other transportation service companies.

13. Jazz Festival

Steve Foglia commented on the Jazz festival and noted that last year the sidewalks and washrooms were blocked off at Riverwalk Commons. He inquired the plans were for the 2018 Jazz Festival.

**Adjournment**

Moved by: Councillor Bisanz  
Seconded by: Linda Jones

1. That the meeting adjourn at 12:15 PM.

**Carried**

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Date

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Steve Foglia, Chair