

The meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, September 17, 2015 in Activity Room, Magna Centre, 395 Mulock Drive, Newmarket.

Members Present: Gloria Couves
Steve Foglia, Chair
Linda Jones
Jeremy Slessor
Richard Wilson

Absent: Councillor Bisanz
Michael Morrison

Guests: Alissa Price, ASL Interpreter

Staff Present: L. Lyons, Deputy Clerk
P. McIntosh, Recreation Programmer
C. Finnerty, Council/Committee Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m.

Steve Foglia in the Chair

Additions & Corrections to the Agenda

None.

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

None.

Deputations/Presentations

None.

Approval of Minutes

1. Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes of June 18, 2015.

Moved by: Jeremy Slessor

Seconded by: Gloria Couves

THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes of June 18, 2015 be approved.

Carried

Items for Discussion

2. Correspondence from the Vaughan Citizen dated August 26, 2015 regarding Vaughan ramping up accessible transportation options.

The Deputy Clerk provided a verbal update regarding accessible taxicabs and advised that she has been contacted by staff from the City of Vaughan who indicated that they will be licencing six accessible taxicabs with the intent to contract service to other York Region municipalities. The Deputy Clerk further provided background information on the current status of accessible taxicabs in Newmarket and next steps associated with the potential contracting of accessible taxicab services. Discussion ensued regarding logistics of such servicing, links with MobilityPlus and the need for accessible services in Newmarket.

Moved by: Gloria Couves

Seconded by: Richard Wilson

THAT the correspondence from the Vaughan Citizen dated August 26, 2015 regarding Vaughan ramping up accessible transportation options be received;

AND THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee support a partnership with the City of Vaughan for the provision of accessible taxi services in Newmarket.

Carried

3. 2016 Schedule of Meetings

Discussion ensued regarding meeting locations and times. It was determined that meetings would commence at 10:30 a.m., with a National Access Awareness Week Subcommittee meeting to occur before formal Committee meetings, where possible.

Moved by: Linda Jones
Seconded by: Jeremy Slessor

THAT the 2016 Schedule of Meetings, as amended, be approved.

Carried

4. Annual Accessibility Plan Update.

The Deputy Clerk advised that the Annual Accessibility Plan Update will be deferred to the November meeting. Staff will distribute the final draft plan for the Committee's consideration by October 30, 2015.

5. Accessibility Advisory Committee Workplan

Discussion ensued regarding the Accessibility Advisory Committee Workplan and prioritization of short and long-term Committee goals.

Moved by: Gloria Couves
Seconded by: Linda Jones

THAT staff be directed to commence discussion with Upper Canada Mall to book National Access Awareness Week activities.

Carried

New Business

- a) The Chair advised that he attended the York Region Police Open House related to Mental Illness and provided a verbal update on the recommendations heard at the Open House, including methods to diffuse situations prior to escalation, awareness campaigns and systems, and training measures for police staff.
- b) L. Jones provided a verbal update on Text 911, a new service being provided through York Region Police and York Region.
- c) The Deputy Clerk provided an update on the new Town website and advised of measures being implemented to enhance accessibility, including documents formatted for use with a screen reader. She further advised that some pieces will be forthcoming as the website is an ongoing project.

Adjournment

Moved by: Richard Wilson
Seconded by: Jeremy Slessor

THAT the meeting adjourn.

Carried

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

Date

Steve Foglia, Chair