



**M i n u t e s**  
**Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday June 8 2016**  
**5:00 p.m.**  
**Kenora Recreation Centre Multipurpose Room**

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**With** Chair Denise Miault, Mary Bawden, Deborah Hatfield, Marian McKay, Councilor Sharon Smith, Diane Pelletier and Ruth Bowiec

**Staff** Adam Smith, Special Projects and Research Officer, Kathy Mayes, Administrative Assistant

**Guest** Colleen Neil, Recreation Services Division Lead

**Regrets** Councilor Rory McMillan, Chad English

**1. Call to Order**

Denise called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

**2. Welcome & Introductions**

Denise welcomed Colleen Neil to the meeting.

**3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**

There were none declared.

**4. Confirmation of Minutes**

**Moved by M. Bawden, seconded by R. Bowiec and Carried-**

That the Minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting held April 13, 2016 be confirmed as written and circulated.

## **5. Business Arising**

Rotary Club Splash Pad at Norman Park – Colleen Neil

Colleen Neil was in attendance to talk about the Splash Park and presented a conceptual drawing, which has been used by Rotary for fundraising. Colleen spoke of requesting feedback from such agencies as the Royal Life Saving Society, Red Cross, OPP and the Northwestern Health Unit for locations and safety issues. They are seeking the input of this Committee considering their expertise with possible accessible issues for pathways, pool entry and exits, as well as the location of the pool on the conceptual drawing.

The proposed pool location within the park has raised concerns. It is very close to the water, not visible from the road way, and something the OPP have pointed out regarding security issues especially at night. Any feature that is going to cause people to gather should be visible, as well as have visibility through trees.

The site was chosen because of accessible pathways, which currently do not exist, however set as a goal in 2019. There was a question on how the paths would be in place with no dates and no money for extras. It was mentioned fundraising for accessible pathways for the splash park could be done.

The members were told that the Splash Park would come under the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care as the water needs to be treated and safe. Issues arising for this to happen is recycling water or using fresh water. It was noted that the cost of water, a storage tank, the cost of pumping and draining the treated water come under the City's responsibility.

The members had a discussion regarding the site through the accessibility lens. Denise asked everyone to take the time over the summer recess to think it through and if they know of people who have accessibility issues, especially children's issues to consult them. The Committee will reconvene in September. Marion McKay offered to host a BBQ at her home, which is near Norman Park and then the members can have a site visit. Marian will let Kathy Mayes know the date and time to share with the committee.

After the site visit, the Committee could record and send comments and recommendations to the Splash Park contacts. Denise thanked Colleen for her presentation.

*Colleen left the meeting at 5:44 p.m.*

## **5. 2016 Work Plan Development**

- Update on Accessibility Awareness Week (AAW) Celebration  
It was reported that Crystal Alcock did a fabulous job highlighting what the library has done and their services, home delivery, etc. for accessibility. The fact sheet will be uploaded to the Library's website. There was appreciation for Rory, Dan and Dave attending the event. There was disappointment that there was not a big show up however, the weather and time of day were likely factors. Next year, the Committee could highlight a City department and hold the Celebration later on in the day. Similarly to mental health week, AAW week could be better publicized through the decorating of windows with something distinctive that signifies accessibility. This includes painting windows blue with a pediatric wheelchair and/or have a mascot for AAW. Denise to e-mail Mary about the puppet.
- Update on Presentation to Council at Committee of the Whole June 7<sup>th</sup>  
It was reported that the presentation was excellent and well received. Q104 interviewed Denise and asked if he could interview her again. She provided comments on the accomplishments of the Committee and about the demographics tsunami.

## **6. Announcements and Communications**

- Enabling Accessibility Fund – Adam Smith  
This Federal government program includes the Workplace Accessibility Stream for businesses with less than 100 employees and offers 65% funding with a max of \$50,000. The Community Accessibility Stream – geared to smaller populations – may be relevant for accessible trails at Norman Park and it covers 65% of project costs up to \$50,000. Adam Smith spoke of asking staff about stackable funding and the previous application to fund the Norman Park trail. May be beneficial to seek another grant given it would be a shovel-ready project. Other funding options are the Trillium Foundation, the Borealis Running group who are looking for projects to get involved in.

## **7. Next Meeting – September 7<sup>th</sup> (tentative)**

## **8. Adjournment**

Denise adjourned the meeting at 6:19 p.m.