

4. Work Plan

- **Develop 2017 Work Plan**

The Work Plan was reviewed by the group and it was asked which items will need to be continued and accomplished in 2017.

The goal to Review Making Accessibility Happen Manual was discussed and the group felt this should be a standing item as lots of work went into it and there is value in carrying on with it.

Adam will review the City's accessibility plan and will provide the group with a progress report once he has completed it.

The "Beyond Minimum" information piece (letter) which accompanies building permit applications has been updated to reflect new contact information. Adam provided the revised letter to Denise for her signature. The letter was read to the group and there was a comment that the letter does not outline what "Beyond Minimum" means other than providing an example of an accessible ramp slope and barrier free washroom. It was asked if the letter is for business owners or residential purposes. The letter was said to be written as generic to address businesses and residential projects. It was asked if there is a way to track how many letters have been handed out, to use as an outcome measure. Adam will follow up with the Planning Department to provide them with the updated letter and discuss the possibility of tracking the number of letters which are distributed. There was a discussion on the benefit for businesses to go "Beyond Minimum". The goal to make Ontario more accessible by 2025 was also discussed. There was a comment how 2025 once seemed so far away but now it is not all that far off.

National Accessibility Week and event locations were discussed. Garrow Park was identified as a great location to host the event with the proposed development of an accessible playground. Adam spoke on the playground project and informed the group that although the grant application for the project had been denied, the City is still hoping to move forward with the playground which has accessibility components. The idea of reaching out to the Director of KACL to invite their clients to the park's grand opening was shared. The question if these events are advertised anywhere was asked. It was said the Library event last year was in the Kenora Daily Miner and News with a photo and small note. Shaw TV's Morning Show was seen as good opportunity to highlight these events. For the next meeting Denise asked the group to bring forward alternate event locations to have as a backup plan in the event the playground does not move forward or is incomplete.

The window cling distribution to accessible businesses was discussed and the group wishes to move forward with this item. The possibility of including an age friendly component was also shared.

- **Identify City of Kenora Buildings for Accessibility Building Inspections**

Denise asked the group if they have any suggestions for City of Kenora buildings to have an inspection done by the Accessibility Advisory Committee, to identify areas of improvement for accessible design standards. City Hall was identified as a good option. It was suggested the committee complete two inspections in 2017, one inspection of a city owned building and another of a public outdoor space such as a park or trail. Garrow Park was identified as a great opportunity with the approach of the Canada Summer Games. Councillor Smith spoke on the announcement of a new exterior fitness park to be located at Garrow Park, which is a 100th Anniversary project for the Kenora Lions Club.

5. Terms of Reference – Review & Modifications

The Terms of Reference were circulated to the committee members to review and bring forward any recommendations for edits. Councillor Smith commented on the benefit of reviewing the Terms of Reference at the beginning of each year. Some outdated terms were identified. It was noted the wordsmithing is legislated by the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act. Adam will bring forward the housekeeping items to Council. There was a discussion on section 9.0 – Committee Operation Expenses. Adam indicated he does have a small budget available for the AAC expenses. The meeting date of the second Wednesday of the month was agreed as being suitable by the group. The committee appointed Denise to continue in her role as the Chairperson and Denise accepted.

Marion left the meeting at 5:51 p.m.

6. Snow Clearing

Denise informed the group she is in regular contact with the Roads Department to identify areas which are in need of snow removal for accessibility reasons. Councillor Smith informed the group that the City of Kenora's Snow Removal Policy is going to be made more accessible to the public. The policy outlines the priority routes for snow removal in a weather event. Praise was given to the Roads Department for all of their hard work over the last few weeks given the amount of snowfall we have received. Praise was also given to some local businesses for their diligence with clearing the sidewalk at their storefronts. There was a further discussion on whose responsibility it is to clear business sidewalks and windrows.

7. Announcements and Communications

There were no announcements or communications.

9. Next Meeting – February 8, 2017

11. Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.