



Minutes

Of a Meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee Of the City of Kenora

Wednesday, September 13, 2017 – City Hall Council Chambers
5:00 p.m.

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**With** Chair Denise Miault, Vice-Chair Diane Pelletier, Councillor Sharon Smith, Ruth Bowice, Deborah Hatfield, Marion McKay

**Staff** Adam Smith, Special Projects & Research Officer Kelly Galbraith, Administrative Assistant

**Regrets** Councillor Rory McMillan, Rev'd Sandra Tankard, Chad English, Mary Bawden

### 1. Call to Order

Denise called meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

It was noted that there was no quorum but the group decided to proceed with the meeting.

### 2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

There were none declared.

### 3. Follow up from Accessibility Forum – Denise

Denise spoke on the Accessibility Forum she attended in June, in Thunder Bay. She said the forum was excellent and highlighted how accessibility is evolving. In attending different forums and conferences Denise has got to know many people at these events and shared that many of them speak on the progress Kenora is making towards accessibility.

She shared an unfortunate situation that occurred with the booking of her hotel for the conference. At the time of the booking she did not specify the need for

accessible features. When she arrived she learnt the hotel did not have an elevator the hotel wanted to charge her extra for having a room on the main floor.

## **5. Work Plan Review**

The 2016/2017 work plan was circulated to the group to see what has been accomplished and what still requires action. An inspection of a City building has not been done in 2017 and was identified as an item which can be accomplished this year. The review of the Accessibility Plan and presentation to Council were also identified as action items for 2017. These items will be brought forward to the October meeting to decide what can be done and who will do what.

Denise spoke on the 2018 election and informed the group this is the last year of the committee member's term. The reappointment process was discussed and it was commented the committee would like to see some new membership.

## **6. Senior's Symposium**

Adam shared there will be a Senior's Symposium happening on Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. He commented there has been positive response from vendors and community organizations. He informed the group there will be presentations on elder abuse, scams, and tax credits, as well as trade show booths. He encouraged all to attend.

*Marion arrived at 5:20 p.m.*

## **7. Confirmation of Minutes**

**Moved by Ruth Bowiec, seconded by Councillor Smith and Carried -**

That the Minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting held March 8, 2017 be confirmed as written and filed.

## **8. TCT Funding & Project Submission**

Information on funding available from the Trans Canada Trail was circulated to the group. It was noted that the available funding is up to 35% of a capital cost. At this time the capital budgets are all accounted for and due to the tight deadline of the applications the group could not apply for the funding.

There was a conversation on possible projects that the committee would like to see accomplished when funding opportunities are available. Accessible docks, a dock lift and beach wheelchairs were a few ideas shared. It was asked that accessibility projects be added to the agenda as an on-going item. Adam will speak with Karen Brown, CAO to see if we can ask all City departments to have accessibility in mind when planning and working on projects. The group would also like to see proposals created so when opportunities become available they are ready.

Adam shared that accessibility played a large part in the design of the new playground at Garrow Park. There was a discussion on all of the upgrades and accessibility features done at Garrow Park for the Canada Summer Games.

## **9. Roundtable**

Denise informed the group the Northwestern Independent Livings Services Inc (NILS) was contacted by disabled families for information on Kenora as a vacation destination. The opportunity to have Kenora labelled as an accessible vacation destination was discussed.

Accessible parking stall availability during the busy summer months was discussed. It was commented that the shuttle to and from the farmer's market was not accessible. Kelly will provide this feedback to Josh Nelson, Tourism Development Officer.

Ruth shared that the estimates for an accessible ramp to the Railroad Museum have come back much higher than the original quote. Possible solutions and the design standards for accessibility were discussed.

## **10. Next Meeting – October 17, 2017**

## **11. Adjourn Meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.