



M i n u t e s

Of a Meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee Of the City of Kenora Monday, April 9, 2018 – City Hall Council Chambers 4:00 p.m.

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**With** Councillor Sharon Smith, Mary Bawden, Ruth Bowiec, Deborah Hatfield, Chad English

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

**Regrets** Councillor Rory McMillan, Rev'd Sandra Tankard, Chair Denise Miault, Vice-Chair Diane Pelletier, Marion McKay

**Guest** Heather Kasprick, City Clerk

### **1. Call to Order**

Mary called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

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

There were none declared.

### **3. Election Accessibility Plan with guest Heather Kasprick, City Clerk**

Heather Kasprick, City Clerk presented the 2018 election accessibility plan to the group. The plan is required under the Elections Act and must include the identification, removal and prevention of barriers that affect electors and candidates with disabilities.

The 2018 municipal election voting will be done via phone or internet so that voters do not have to physically go to the polls. In the past, voting electronically has increased voter participation. Heather shared that

temporary designated parking and accessible parking will be made available in front of City Hall for those who do not have access to telephones and internet and need to access the voting kiosks. It was asked if voters will be required to pay for parking when using the designated stalls and it was confirmed they would be required to plug the metre. Voting kiosks will also be set up at the senior's centre, senior homes and care homes to provide assistance for those who may require it.

The group thanked Heather for sharing the election accessibility plan with them. Heather encouraged the group to contact her with any further input or feedback on the plan.

***Heather left the meeting at 4:15p.m.***

#### **4. Confirmation of Minutes**

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

That the Minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting held March 7, 2018 be confirmed as written and filed.

#### **5. Enabling Accessibility Fund**

Adam informed the group of the recently announced changes to the Enabling Accessibility Fund. It was announced that the midsize project stream is now open. Midsize projects are a new scale of projects for the funding. The minimum ask is \$350,000 to a maximum of \$1,000,000, with a required 35% contribution from sources other than the federal government. The program is open to non-profit, first nations and municipalities.

Some possible projects that were shared include upgrade to the Sportsplex, the downtown revitalization, or the possible grouping of projects in Norman and/or Garrow Park. Adam shared that the program has broad criteria. The first phase of the application is a call for concepts which will open in May. The second step of the application is higher level and requires a comprehensive project plan.

It was asked if the small project stream will be available this year. Adam shared that it is not open at this time however small projects may be eligible through the Community Improvement Plan (CIPs). Kelly will circulate information on CIPs to the group.

#### **6. Announcements & Communications**

Chad asked if there have been any announcements on the sledge hockey grant application. Adam shared there have been no announcements as of yet however, announcements should be made in the near future.

Adam spoke on the opportunity for a Leisure Access Program which is in the early stages, to see if it is feasible. The program would be designed to assist with making recreational programs available to those who may not have the financial means to do so on their own. It was commented that low income individuals have the highest health risks. Mary shared that St. Albans Cathedral along with some other community organizations are running a program to help assist individuals move beyond the poverty class to middle class by getting participants (called investigators) to start thinking about ways of shifting behaviors. Exercise was identified as one of the behaviors.

It was shared that Uptown Café will be hosting a Cheeseburger in Paradise event in support Rotary splash park on Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> from 11a.m-2p.m. There was a discussion on the hard work and efforts that the Rotarians have put into raising funds for the splash park.

## **7. Next Meeting**

- Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at 4:00p.m.

## **8. Adjourn Meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55p.m.