



Minutes

Of a Meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee Of the City of Kenora Thursday, October 7, 2021 – Virtual Attendance 4:00 p.m.

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**With** Diane Pelletier, Councillor Sharon Smith, Chad English, Ruth Bowiec

**Staff** Kylie Hissa, Strategic Initiatives Officer, Kelly Galbraith, Deputy Clerk

**Regrets** Mary Bawden, Brenda Ranville, Councillor Rory McMillan (alternate)

### 1. Call to Order

Chad called meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

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

There were none declared.

### 3. Trillium Funding Application

Kylie shared that the City submitted an application to Trillium for an accessible playground at Norman Park. In 2021 \$100,000 in capital funding was put into reserves for the project and in 2022 another \$100,000 will be the ask to Council. A \$50,000 private donation has been given and along with a \$210,000 grant application to Trillium. If successful, the total funding for the project will be \$460,000. The group was asked to think of any other organizations or groups that may be able to contribute further to the project. Additional features such as sensory boards are something that can be incorporated into the design and installed at a later date when funding becomes available. Diane shared that KACL has a Children Services Program which assists children with developmental and physical disabilities which may have something to contribute.

#### **4. Follow-up from September's Meeting**

The work at Norman Park on the accessible trail is well underway and is scheduled to be completed in the next week or two. Features such as an accessible water fountain, an accessible viewing deck by the lake and benches along the trail have also been installed. Committee members were encouraged to go to the park to see and celebrate the work that has been done.

#### **5. Terms of Reference**

Chad asked the group to come prepared to the November meeting with suggested edits or revisions to the AAC Terms of Reference.

#### **6. Roundtable Discussion**

Councillor Smith encouraged the group to attend the local parks, trails and beaches to see the fabulous work that has been done. It was asked that Kelly connect with Kerri, Communications Clerk to promote the great work being done for accessibility in our community.

Chad shared that sledge hockey started last Sunday. The board is looking for ways to off-set the cost of ice. At this time not a lot of kids have signed up. Kenora Swimming Sharks para-swim is active once again. Janet Hyslop is running the para-swim and has two participants with the potential of one more.

Diane and Kelly attended a Parks and Recreation Master Plan engagement session. It was an opportunity to discuss the great things going on in the community with the AAC and Kenora Urban Recreations Trails (KURT) Committee.

Ruth shared a young women from Kenora, living with Down Syndrome has published a book showing the world as she sees it through her art. The book will be available at the Kenora Library and the Kenora Museum. The group requested that City of Kenora Communications feature the book once it is available.

#### **7. Next Meeting – November 4, 2021 at 4:00pm**

#### **10. Adjourn Meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.