



Minutes

**Of a Meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee
Of the City of Kenora
Thursday, January 13, 2022 – Virtual Attendance
4:00 p.m.**

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

**Staff** Stace Gander, Director of Community Services, Shaun Clifford, Parks and Facilities Manager, Kelly Galbraith, Deputy Clerk

**Regrets** Diane Pelletier, 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. Introduction - Stace Gander, Director of Community Services & Shaun Clifford, Parks & Facilities Manager**

Stace and Shaun were welcomed by the group. Stace is the new staff resource for the Accessibility Advisory Committee and will be attending the monthly meetings moving forward.

**4. Adopt Minutes of previous Meeting – October 7, 2021  
Moved by Ruth Bowiec, Seconded by Mary Bawden and Carried;**

That the Minutes of the October 7, 2021 Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting be confirmed as written and filed.

**5. 2022 Capital Projects**

Shaun shared the 2022 capital projects that are anticipated to begin in the spring. These include upgrades to Coney Island, the trail system behind the Rec Centre and ground work at the Pavilion. Two large projects slated for this year are the self-

cleaning washroom which will be fully accessible as well as an upgraded play structure at Norman Park.

### **Discussion:**

The group shared their excitement for the 2022 capital projects. It was noted the upgrades to Norman Park are a win for residents and visitors. The City of Kenora will be able to promote Norman Park an accessible destination for families.

The challenges of getting over to Coney Island were discussed. Stace and Shaun provided some background on the shuttle services and the options that are being considered.

### **6. AAC Terms of Reference – Update**

In review of the terms of reference, the document aligns with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act as well other municipalities throughout Ontario. There are some minor changes that will be brought forward. The primary change will be to the committee membership. A sub-committee meeting will be held to discuss membership and recruitment.

### **7. Roundtable**

Councillor Smith shared concerns she received from a resident about the accessible parking stalls not having proper snow clearing. The large banks make it difficult to access the sidewalks and meters. It was noted there are new staff in the Engineering and Infrastructure Services department which oversee Roads.

It was identified there are no curb cut-outs along Main Street and other main roadways making it difficult for residents with accessibility needs. In order to access the Main Street patio one must go to the end of the street, to the crosswalk where there are curb cut-outs. Stace will follow-up on this.

The accessible parking at one of our local grocery stores was discussed. When a large truck is delivering a shipment to the store and is being unloaded it blocks the accessible stalls near the entrance to the store.

Ruth shared she watched a TV program on accessibility in Canada and it touched on what can be done to go beyond code requirements for accessibility standards. It is important to remember that accessibility goes beyond mobility issues and to remember the need for more braille and sounds signals.

### **8. Next Meeting – February 10, 2021 at 4:00pm**

### **9. Adjourn Meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.