



Minutes
Of a Meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee
Of the City of Kenora
Thursday, May 16, 2024
City Hall Council Chambers/Virtual
4:00 p.m.

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**With** Chad English, Chair, Mary Bawden, Co-Chair, Heather Bird, Peggy Whitta, Councillor Van Belleghem

**Virtual** Corrie Neufeld

**Staff** Shaun Clifford, Facilities Manager, Greg Breen, Director of Engineering & Infrastructure, Kelly Galbraith, Customer Services Manager/Deputy Clerk

**Regrets** Janice Arandelovic

**1. Call to Order**

Chad called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. and delivered the land acknowledgement.

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

There were none declared.

**3. Confirmation of Minutes**

**Moved by Mary Bawden, seconded by Heather Bird & Carried:**

That the Minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting held April 18, 2024 be confirmed as written and filed.

**4. Capital Projects Review**

**• Dock Upgrades Project**

**Norman Park** - Shaun shared that a new dock will be installed at Norman Park. The ramp from the shore to the floating dock will be sixteen (16) feet to help lessen pitch. The standard is twelve (12) feet. The shore deck will be level with the ground. For the time being it will be grass up to the shore deck. There is hope that funding will become available in the future to allow for the expansion of the accessible pathway to the dock.

**Discussion:**

The committee recommended that a railing be installed on the shore deck and ramp.

**Rotary Peace Park** – The Coney Island walking bridge is going to be repurposed during the summer months and placed at the Rotary Peace Park. The docks will allow for events such as water ceremonies to take place and increase park usage. There will be no boat docking or swimming permitted. The docks are to be used as a quiet spot to allow people to get close to the water.

**Discussion:**

The group shared that it would be nice to include seating on the docks as well as a garbage can in the park.

**Moncrief Construction Sports Centre** – A new dock will be installed at the new boat launch at the Moncrief Construction Sports Centre. The docks will be eight (8) feet wide.

**Discussion:** Wood borders on docks to stop wheelchairs were recommended. It was also suggested that couple of benches be installed.

**● Moncrief Construction Sports Centre Lobby Reconfiguration Project**

Shaun shared renderings for the Moncrief Construction Sports Centre Lobby Reconfiguration Project. The placement of the front desk will be relocated, there will be a multi-purpose room where the current cafe is and in the location of the old desk a seating area will be installed. To access the pool and fitness area, new glass automated sliding doors will be installed.

**5. National AccessAbility Week – May 26<sup>th</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024**

Plans continue for National AccessAbility Week. Emails went out to all schools within the city for the What Does Accessibility Mean to You School Challenge. The City of Kenora Communications Clerk has also been working on the social media campaign that will run from May 26<sup>th</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup>. Departmental social media campaigns will also be run on the Library, Museum, Tourism Kenora and Moncrief Construction Sports Centre's social media pages.

**6. Roundtable**

Chad shared with the group that he was informed that May 16<sup>th</sup> is Global Accessibility Awareness Day.

Peggy provided an update on the railings she had advocated for. All three businesses/organizations are going to fix their railings. Graspable railings will be installed. Greg shared that the railing on the new ramp at Keewatin Beach will be graspable. Graspable railings are now code. The committee thanked Peggy for her great advocacy.

Heather shared that she sent a message to Susan Evenden regarding the Multi-Use Trails Letter. Susan Evenden and Peter Kirby would like to come to attend a meeting.

Greg spoke to the ramp that was requested for the rocking ship at Norman Park. The committee discussed placing a ramp to a playground fixture that is not accessible. There are ranges of abilities with children and although the ramp may not make the fixture fully accessible it does make it more inclusive.

**7. Next Meeting** – Thursday, June 20, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. – Tour of Central Park and Norman Park.

## **8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

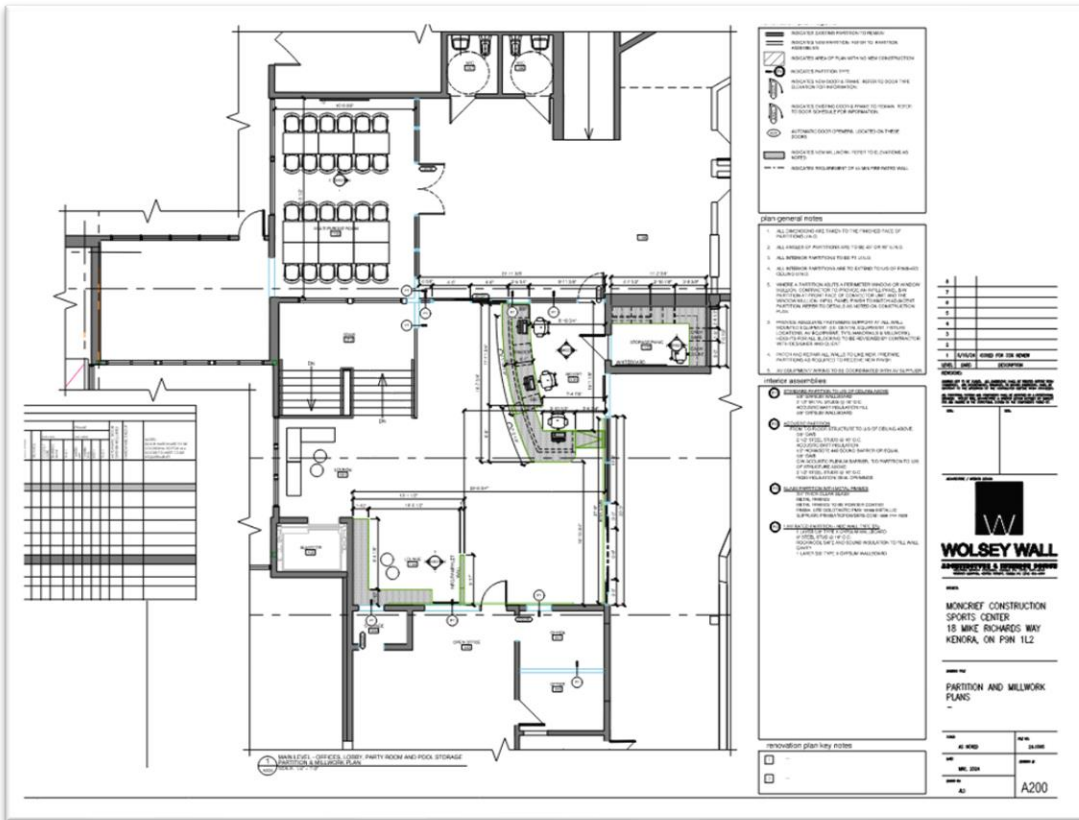
### **Upcoming Items:**

- National AccessAbility Week – May 26 – June 1, 2024
- Annual Accessibility Plan Update – Spring 2024
- AAC Report to Council – June 2024

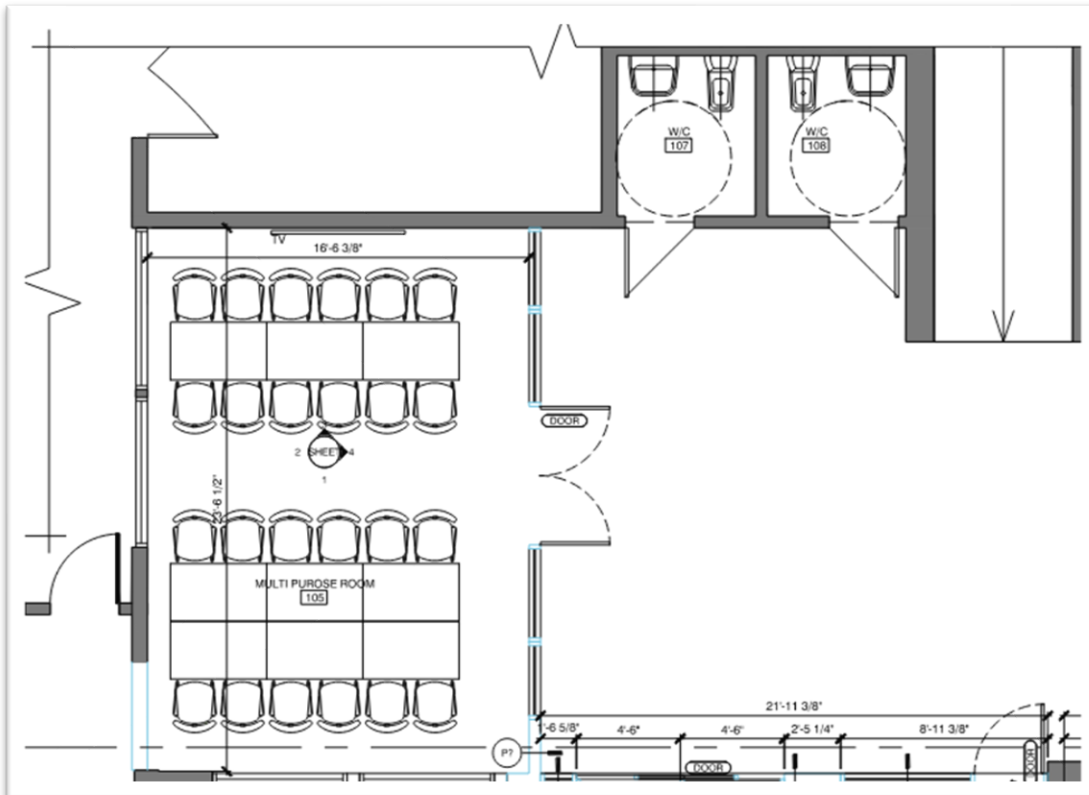
### **Wishlist:**

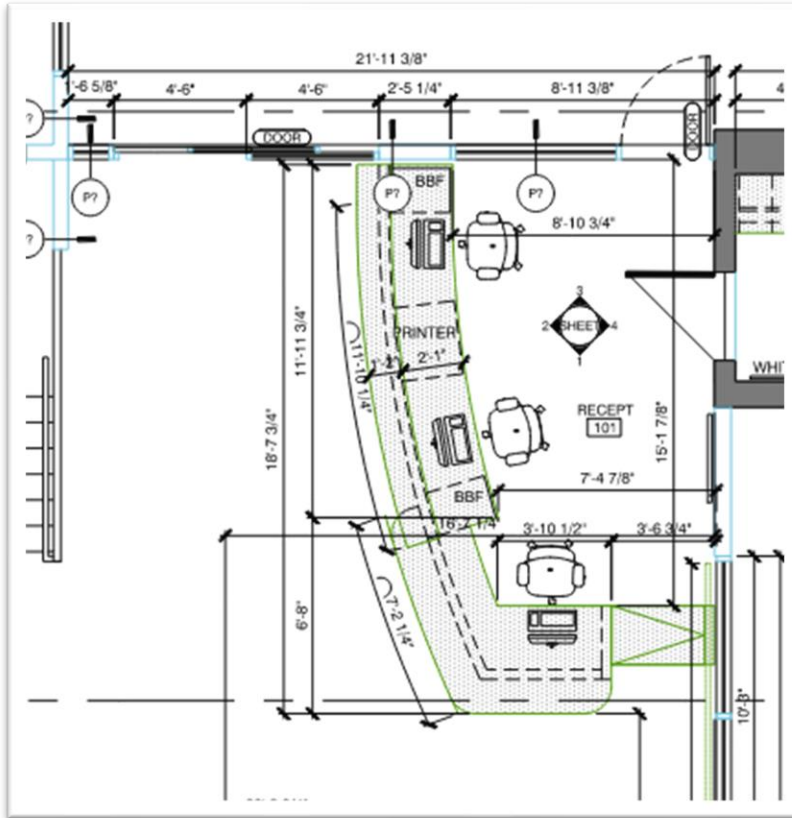
- Doorknobs to levers – particularly at City Hall
- A wheelchair accessible taxi
- Accessible Pool and adult change bed in change rooms at pool
- That the street corners in the core area be maintained
- Keewatin beach should become more accessible for people in wheelchairs. Mobi-Mat is often dirty and does not go out far enough
- The sidewalks that have slanted driveway access need to be changed; people in wheelchairs and motorized wheelchairs have a tendency flip over on the side when crossing the driveway
- The accessibility washrooms in Kenora or not accessibility friendly need to revisit this (not big enough for chairs, ex. Pavilion)
- All businesses should have accessibility especially in the downtown core including the store themselves
- Discussions around the curb stops and ramps around new builds such as the KDSB property for seniors in Lakeside not being adequate
- Lower toilets in public washrooms and add grab bars on both sides, most power chairs are 22-24 inches, stalls need to accommodate
- Reduce slope of ramp at McLeod Park
- Remove all woodchips from parks and use better accessible material

MCL Kenora Rec Center



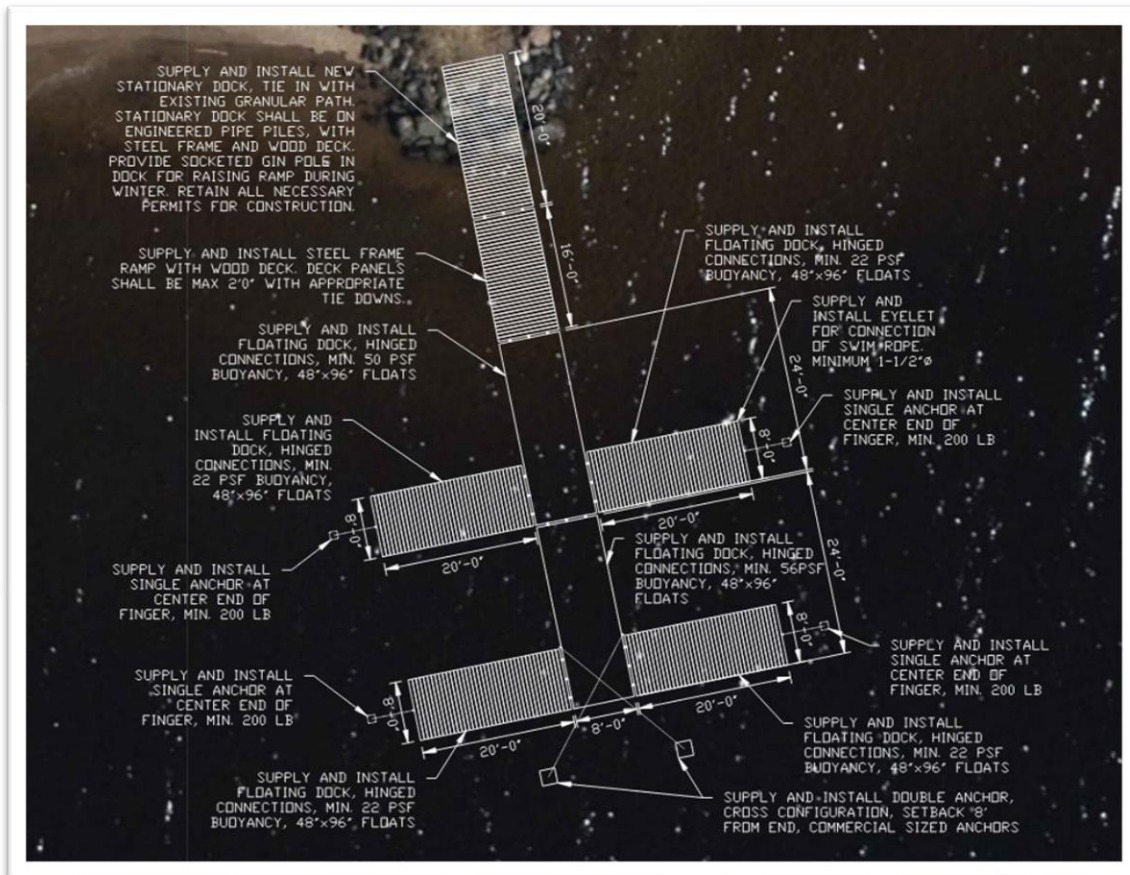
Front service area alterations

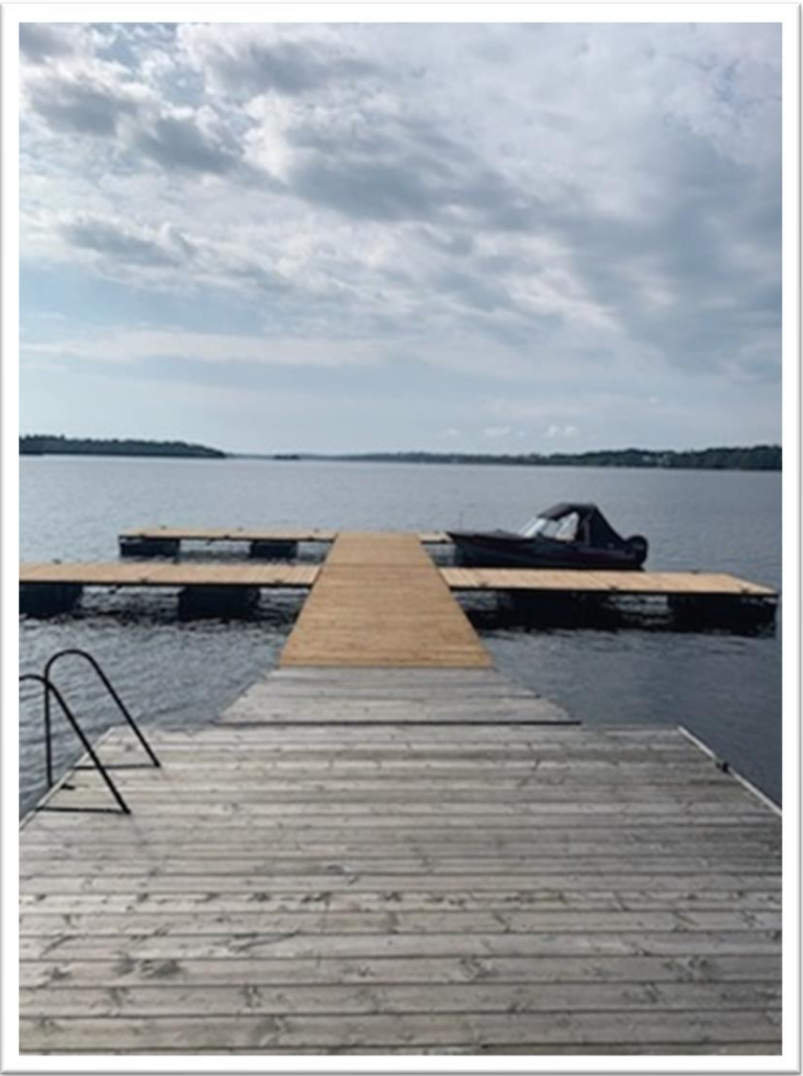




**Dock Program**

Norman Park

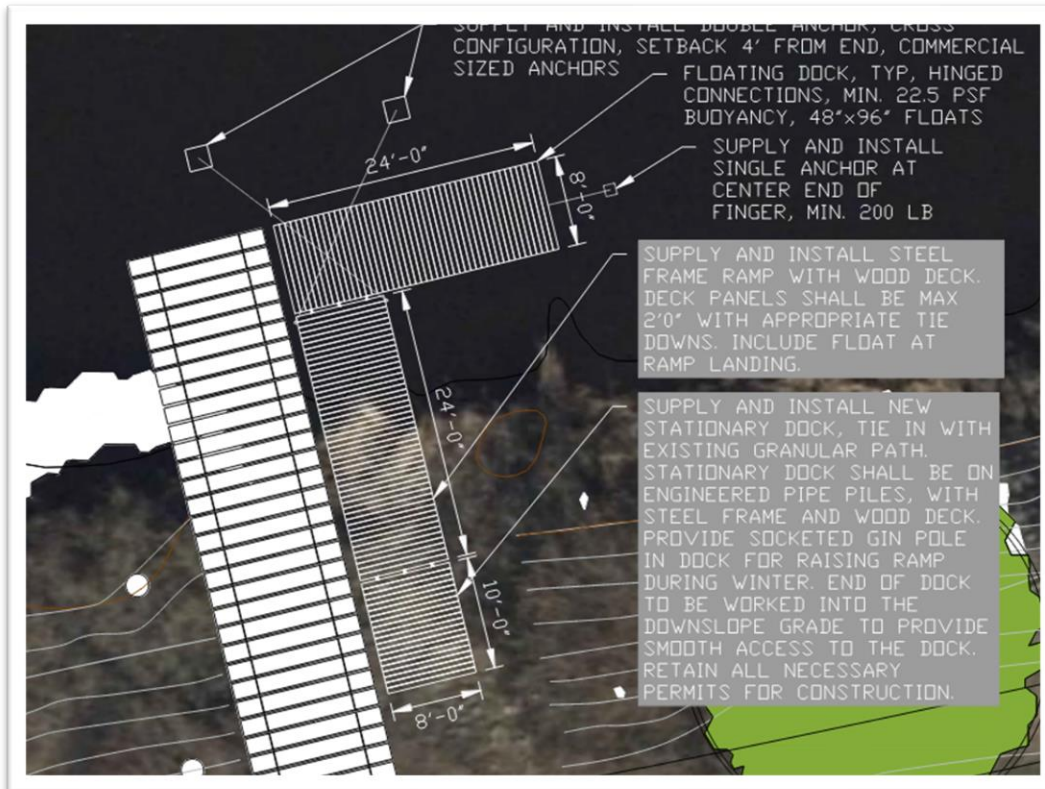




Rotary Peace Park



MCL Kenora Rec Center



## Norman Park Trail



**Kenora Rotary Splash Park**

19m · 🌐



Have you walked the new trail at Norman Park yet? It starts beside the washrooms and winds its way up to the highway. It's not finished yet, but it's already a beautiful trail and wonderful addition to Kenora's first accessible park.







