



City of Kenora
Accessibility Advisory Committee
1 Main St South
Kenora, Ontario P9N 3X2

MINUTES

CITY OF KENORA ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING TO BE HELD at Kenora Wellness Centre 18 Mike Richards Way June 13, 2012 – 5:00 P.M.

Present:

Denise Miault	Chair
Sharen Smith,	Council
Dianne Griffiths	Member
Ruth Bowiec	Member
Diane Debbo	Member
Diane Pelletier	Member
Heather Lajeunesse	Staff Resource

Regrets: Members: Deanne Sutton, Fred de Wind, Kendra Dobinson, Barb Penner, John Nabb, Staff Resource

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Denise, called the June 13th, 2012 City of Kenora Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting, to order at 5:07 p.m.

- 2. Introductions and Welcome:** Denise welcomed Members. Introduction of Heather Lajeunesse, Administrative Assistant for the City of Kenora. Heather will be the staff resource to clerk monthly meetings for the Committee.
- 3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest -** No conflicts declared. Diane Debbo informed the Committee that she is now employed as a RN at the Lake of the Woods District Hospital, not as conflict just for information.
- 4. Approval of Minutes:** Denise Miault / Councillor Smith
There was an error on the attendance in the May 16 minutes. Dianne Pelletier was not present at the meeting.

5. Business Arising:

Fred de Wind has set up a blog for the Committee and Heather Kasprick has placed an ad in the newspaper to advertise the blog. There was no budget to charge the ad to therefore the City paid it so that the committee members wouldn't have to pay it out of their pockets.

Heather Kasprick also asked the Committee to provide some information regarding Access Awareness Week which was from May 27 to June 2. Denise did do a short write-up on it and it will be in the newspaper this week.

NOTE: ask Heather Kasprick to send to John or Denise a copy of the blurb regarding Access Awareness Week.

6. Old Business: None**7. Updates & Information:** None**8. New Business:**

The Accessibility Advisory Committee has a new member, Bayley Kurtz-Ostenfeldt who is to be appointed at the next council meeting on Monday, June 18, 2012. She is not present at this meeting as she hasn't been appointed yet. Bayley currently works with BISNO (Brain Injury Services of Northwestern Ontario) and will be a great asset to the Committee.

Denise had an inquiry as to how the formula is determined for accessible housing. She has been getting a lot of calls lately for accessible housing and has been directing them to the Kenora District Services Board. Henesy Terrace doesn't seem to suit accessibility needs any longer. There was mention of lack of accessible bathing units (accessible roll in showers) and that tenants are struggling to bathe independently due to this issue.

There was reference to the possibility of provincial funding to assist with accessibility. Funding had previously been available through grants for these upgrades but they are few and far between, possibly attained through third parties such as private insurance companies. As well tenants are unable to pay for any types of conversions themselves as management must be on board to do so.

With regards to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005, there was an inquiry as to whether or not these issues would have to be addressed or where it would come to play with the plan. It was indicated that there are loopholes where people can get around addressing accessibility.

ACTION: Councillor Smith to look into who provides funding for upgrades to accessible housing and who is responsible for these upgrades in order to find a contact for Denise to refer people to when she receives these inquiries. Denise to follow up with Councillor Smith.

The Committee voted unanimously to recess for July and August.

Next Meeting September 12th 2012, Wellness Centre 18 Mike Richards Way

9. ADJOURN

Moved by: Ruth Bowiec moved that the June 13th 2012 meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee be adjourned 5:30 p.m.

CARRIED

ADOPTED AS PRESENTED THIS 13th DAY OF June, 2012

CHAIR