



Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes

**Wednesday, June 18, 2014
5:00 p.m.
City Hall Council Chambers**

PRESENT: Denise Miault, Chair
Ruth Bowiec
Bayley Kurtz-Ostenfeldt
Diane Pelletier
Barb Penner
Deanne Sutton
Sharon Smith, Councillor
Kerri Holder, Administrative Assistant

REGRETS: Marion McKay
Ken Puckall
Rod McKay, Councillor
Heather Kasprick, Deputy Clerk

Denise Miault called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

A. Introductions & Welcome

Congratulations were extended to Ruth Bowiec for receiving the 2014 Senior Citizen of the Year award this week.

B. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest & the General Nature Thereof:

- 1) On Today's Agenda**
- 2) From a Meeting at which a Member was not in Attendance**
There were none declared.

C. Confirmation of Minutes:

Moved by R. Bowiec, Seconded by B. Penner & Carried:-

That the Minutes of the last meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee May 14, 2014 be confirmed as written and filed.

D. Items:

1. Presentations/Deputations

None

2. Business Arising

Accessibility Awareness Week Update and the StopGap Program

The success of Accessibility Awareness Week promotion was discussed. Both radio stations and the newspaper were involved. Councillor Smith appeared on Good Morning Kenora on Shaw TV during the week, which expanded the awareness reach. It was noted there was positive feedback received from the public.

Denise spoke about the StopGap presentation at Sure Thing and thanked Bayley for her assistance with that presentation. Mort Goss, owner of Sure Thing, was acknowledged for participating and it was noted that the ramp is still in place. The experience at Second Street Bakery was touched on also, noting the recent improvements for people with accessibility needs.

Bayley will be delivering 10 StopGap information packages to the Harbourtown Biz to promote and generate further interest. It was noted that Biz members may contact Moncrief Construction directly to have ramp constructed for entrances.

Plans for Accessibility Awareness Week next year were discussed. It was mentioned that the Kenora Library will have started its accessibility changes and will be great to promote then. As well, a deputation to Council early in the year was suggested.

3. Old Business

Next Steps on Work Plan

The work plan was reviewed. Both completed and outstanding items were noted.

The "Beyond Minimum" task will be looked at in the fall again. There was an addition to the Staff Resource column suggested, which would include John Nabb, City Facilities.

Under Communication, a suggestion was made to develop an information pamphlet next. Denise asked the group to send her some ideas on other communication pieces also.

Introducing the StopGap Ramp program has been achieved through the Accessibility Week promotion. The next step is to share the information with the Harbourtown BIZ. It was suggested to contact the manager of the Kenora and District Chamber of Commerce, Carol Ledoux, to share this information to its members also. Denise to follow up with Moncrief on further construction of the ramps. Having more than one outsource to build the ramps was suggested. All agreed that the schools should be contacted again in the fall. Decorating of the ramps was discussed with assistance from high school arts classes and the Arts Hub possibly.

Decisions for the Accessible Business "Congratulations" is on hold until more information about the budget for this item is received.

4. Updates and Information

None

5. New Business

There was discussion about accessibility at Coney Island Beach and that a StopGap ramp could be placed to allow access to the sand. Councillor Smith

D. Miault

suggested to consult John Nabb, City Facilities, on this. The idea of a beach wheel chair was mentioned and there was discussion on how a piece of equipment like this could be made available at Coney Island Beach. Kerri to research costs of the beach wheel chair for the next meeting as information for the Committee.

There was discussion about affordable accessible housing and the need in the region.

6. Next Meeting Date

- Wednesday, September 10, 2014

Meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

K. Holder