



Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes

**Wednesday, January 14, 2015
5:00 p.m.
City Hall Council Chambers**

PRESENT: Denise Miault, Chair
Ruth Bowiec
Chad English
Deborah Hatfield
Marion McKay
Diane Pelletier
Councillor Sharon Smith
Heather Kasprick, City Clerk
Kerri Holder, Administrative Assistant

REGRETS: Rory McMillan, Alternate Councillor

Denise called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

A. Introductions & Welcome

Denise welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

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

A brief explanation of conflict interest was given.
There were none declared.

C. Confirmation of Minutes:

Moved by R. Bowiec, Seconded by S. Smith & Carried:-

That the Minutes of the last meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee
September 17, 2014 be confirmed as written and filed.

D. Items:

1. Business Arising

Enabling Accessibility Grant

It was reported that there has been no word on the status of the City's application. Denise confirmed that the Curling Club had received notification about their grant. There was mention about the application sent in for

improvements to the Paterson Medical Centre. It was suggested that Councillor McMillan, who is the Council alternate and also a director on the Kenora Health Care Centre Board, be asked to attend a meeting to provide an update on the grant application. Heather to invite Councillor McMillan to attend a meeting.

H. Kasprick

2. Chair Election

Denise was nominated by the group to continue as Chair and she accepted. It was suggested to select a Vice Chair in case Denise is away. Diane was nominated and accepted the position.

2. New Business

Spray Pad Partnership Announcement

Councillor Smith was pleased to share the City and the Kenora Rotary Club have partnered to build a spray pad at Norman Park. The Rotary Club is providing the initial investment and the City will take on the operating costs once the park is built. Councillor Smith gave a brief description of the design and noted benefits of the location. This project was announced at the Committee of the Whole meeting yesterday.

The City's Urban Trails Committee is working on an accessible trail at Norman Park and an application had been submitted under the Enabling Accessibility Fund, as noted above. It was suggested that if the application was unsuccessful, the information gathered for the submission could be put into another grant program. Heather to follow up on status of the grant.

H. Kasprick

Age-Friendly Community Planning Grant

Councillor Smith provided an update on this grant. A committee has been established with the Northwestern Health Unit and community members to prepare this grant application. This project would be to hire a consultant to prepare a report on age-friendly needs in the City. The deadline for the application is January 30th.

AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act) Celebration Event 10th Anniversary

Heather gave an update on this event. The celebration is being held in Thunder Bay in June. A request has been received asking for guest speakers to attend this event, with expenses paid by AODA. It was suggested that a representative from this Committee attend to speak about the accessibility in Kenora. Denise was asked to attend and agreed. Heather will help to prepare speaking notes.

H. Kasprick

3. Updates and Information

Winter Concerns

A concern about snow in front of the Kenora Recreation Centre entrance was brought forward. There had been difficulty pushing a wheeled walker through the snow layer. It was advised that the front desk should be informed at the time an issue is experienced. Heather to send details of this concern to Colleen Neil for follow-up with maintenance.

H. Kasprick

Fire Regulation Changes

It was indicated that Fire Code requirements are changing for care facilities and buildings. One change mentioned is the need to have an evacuation procedure in place by the end of the year. Denise reported that Henesy Terrace had a successful practice evacuation arranged by Chief Brinkman and are now working with Fire and Emergency Services to develop a more comprehensive plan. There are also changes for sprinkler system requirements.

Committee Work Plan

There was a question about the status of the work plan and it was decided that it should be reviewed at the next meeting. Kerri to send the work plan to the Committee.

The meeting schedule was talked about. All agreed to keep the same schedule. (5:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month).

Ruth left the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

Heather left the meeting at 5:44 p.m.

Regrets for upcoming meetings were declared. There was brief discussion about the membership of the Committee. All were encouraged to approach others to join.

4. Next Meeting Date

- Wednesday, February 11, 2015

Meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

K. Holder