

Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes
February 4, 2020 - 7:00 PM
Committee Room One
Whitby Town Hall

Present: Jeffrey Beaton, Vice-Chair
Liam Lacy
Denise Laframboise
James Lawrie, Chair
Dave MacKinnon
Paul Scott

Also Present: Councillor Yamada, Mayor's Designate
John Romano, Commissioner of Community Services
Michele Cotton, Staff Liaison, Accessibility Coordinator
Heather Oerlemans, Council and Committee Coordinator
(Recording Secretary)

Regrets: Naji Hassan
Ayse Yuksel

Call to Order

1. Disclosures of Interest

1.1 There were no disclosures of interest.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

2.1 Minutes - January 7, 2020

It was the consensus of the Committee to amend the first paragraph in Item 9.1, North Whitby Sports Complex to read as follows:

"Denise Laframboise requested information regarding when the Accessibility Advisory Committee would be consulted during the planning of the North Whitby Sports Complex and the process for consultation for the proposed North Whitby Sports Complex."

It was the consensus of the Committee to add a third paragraph to Item 9.1, North Whitby Sports Complex, to read as follows:

"Jeffrey Beaton recommended that the Town should hire a consultant for the planning phase of the North Whitby Sports Complex to streamline planning and maximize end-user satisfaction."

Recommendation:

Moved By Jeffrey Beaton

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee minutes of January 7, 2020, as amended, be approved.

Carried

3. Presentations

3.1 There were no presentations.

4. Delegations

4.1 There were no delegations.

5. General Business and Reports

5.1 Accessibility Advisory Committee 2020 Work Plan

Michele Cotton advised that the Committee would be drafting the Accessibility Advisory Committee 2020 Work Plan. Ms. Cotton further advised that Council's goals should be integrated into the Accessibility Advisory Committee 2020 Work Plan.

James Lawrie requested that Ms. Cotton send out a copy of the Accessibility Advisory Committee 2019 Work Plan to the Committee as a reference guide.

Discussion ensued regarding items to include in the 2020 Work Plan including:

- site plan review standards;
- standardizing a process whereby the Accessibility Advisory Committee would receive a list of upcoming plans at year end;
- a list of Town and Staff events that the Accessibility Advisory Committee could participate in;
- following up with Town Staff regarding the "Report Checklist" to determine how often it is being used;
- park audits; and,

- implementing the Transportation Network Companies Fund Accessibility Grant.

Michele Cotton advised that there were specific legislated items that would be included on the Accessibility Advisory Committee 2020 Work Plan and that the Work Plan should be finalized at the March 3, 2020 Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting.

5.2 Town of Whitby Staff Presentations for 2020

Michele Cotton advised that Town Staff from various departments would be attending upcoming Accessibility Advisory Committee meetings and subcommittee meetings for information purposes.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the information that the Accessibility Advisory Committee would request from various departments;
- the process for sending a presentation request to Town departments;
- the process for handling cancellations from departments including organizing a 'back-up' presenter from another department;
- topics that would be included in presentation requests from various departments such as the Parking Master Plan (Parking Services), building code (Building Division), site plan reviews (Planning and Development Department), and social media and website (Corporate Communications Division); and
- connecting with Staff Liaisons from other advisory committees.

5.3 Accessibility Priorities and Actions

Michele Cotton advised that Council had requested that the Accessibility Advisory Committee identify and prioritize accessibility gaps in services such as Town Events and infrastructure and report back to Council via the Committee's Mayor's Designate.

James Lawrie requested that the Committee provide feedback regarding areas for improvement relating to accessibility gaps within the Town at the March 3, 2020 Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting.

5.4 Signage and Wayfinding Study Update

Michele Cotton advised that the tender for the Accessible Signage and Wayfinding Study would close on February 13, 2020. Ms. Cotton further advised that the Accessibility Advisory Committee would be consulted as a stakeholder. She stated that the goal was to have a set of standards drafted by Q4.

5.5 Metrolinx and Durham Region Transit Update

Michele Cotton provided an update regarding the Metrolinx and Durham Region Transit December 2019 meeting. Ms. Cotton advised that concerns were raised regarding sidewalk connections from Henry Street to the Whitby Go Station. She further advised that the sidewalks and infrastructure in that area were limited to the Town of Whitby property.

Jeffrey Beaton provided an update from the Durham Region Transit Committee and advised that concerns had been raised over cancelled bus routes in Whitby.

5.6 Urban Mobility and Active Transportation Request to Present at a Future Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting

Michele Cotton advised that Chris Potvin had requested to speak to the Accessibility Advisory Committee in April regarding the Active Transportation Plan.

5.7 Subcommittee Updates

Site Plans and Built Environment Subcommittee

Jeffrey Beaton advised that the Site Plan and Built Environment Subcommittee met on February 4, 2020 and provided an in depth review of five developments which included:

- a multi-court rehabilitation project at the Country Lane development;
- required revisions to the curb cuts on the multi-court rehabilitation project at Huron Park;
- required revisions to the curb cuts in the Mattamy Homes (West Whitby) plans at Des Newman Boulevard and Whitefish Street;
- the concept drawings for a park at the Heathwood Homes development; and,
- the parking lot at Cullen Park.

Liam Lacy provided updates regarding the Customer Service and Communications Subcommittee which included:

- ranking Town departments in order of priority for attending the Accessibility Advisory Committee meetings;
- reviewing Committee goals that were not addressed in 2019; and,
- determining priorities for the Accessibility Advisory Committee 2020 Work Plan such as education for staff, and public and staff events.

6. Correspondence

- 6.1** There was no correspondence.

7. Council Update

7.1 Councillor Yamada provided updates regarding:

- the Employment Land Investment Readiness Assessment Report;
- the Community Development Funds - 2019 Annual Report;
- the Dymon Capital Corporation plan to develop a five storey storage facility on McKinney Drive; and,
- the Budget Public Meeting on February 18, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Discussion ensued regarding the Proposed 2020 Budget which included:

- the anticipated growth rates for Whitby and how growth rates impact the tax rate;
- the higher cost items such as roads and fire services;
- monies expected to be spent on community engagement and communication; and,
- the manner in which accessibility costs were represented in the budget.

8. Other Business

8.1 Ontario Newsroom Correspondence

James Lawrie provided an update regarding Ontario's news release to establish a new framework to continue progress on accessibility. Mr. Lawrie advised that the news release outlined four key areas of focus which included:

- breaking down barriers in the built environment;
- government leading by example
- increasing participation in the economy for people with disabilities; and,
- improving understanding and awareness about accessibility.

9. Next Meeting

- 9.1** Tuesday, March 3, 2020 - 7:00 p.m.
Committee Room One, Whitby Town Hall
575 Rossland Road East

10. Adjournment

10.1 Motion to Adjourn

Recommendation:

Moved By Denise Laframboise

That the meeting adjourn.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Note: These minutes were approved by the Accessibility Advisory Committee on March 3, 2020.