

Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes
May 4, 2021 - 7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

Present: Jeffrey Beaton, Chair
Naji Hassan (logged on at 7:09 p.m.)
Liam Lacy
Denise Laframboise
Dave MacKinnon, Vice-Chair
Paul Scott
Ayse Yuksel

Also Present: Regional Councillor Yamada, Mayor's Designate
Michele Cotton, Staff Liaison, Accessibility Coordinator
Heather Oerlemans, Council and Committee Coordinator
(Recording Secretary)

Regrets: None noted

Call to Order

1. Disclosures of Interest

1.1 There were no disclosures of interest.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

2.1 Minutes - April 6, 2021

Recommendation:

Moved By Paul Scott

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee minutes of April 6, 2021 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 Regional Update

Michele Cotton requested that the Committee consider businesses for the Regional Accessibility Awards.

A question and answer period ensued regarding:

- whether a Committee Member could put forward a business they worked for;
- whether suggestions could be submitted by the community through the Accessibility Advisory Committee's webpage;
- whether an individual community member could be nominated;
- whether a deadline for submissions was provided; and,
- whether businesses could be nominated for their online accessibility efforts.

5.2 Age-Friendly Whitby Action Plan Update

Michele Cotton advised that the Whitby 55+ Recreation Advisory Committee had received a grant to evaluate the Town's current Age-Friendly Whitby Action Plan. Ms. Cotton further advised that the Age-Friendly Whitby Action Plan overlapped with projects within the Town's Accessibility Plan. She stated that the Seniors 55+ Recreation Committee created a Subcommittee to evaluate the Age-Friendly Whitby Action Plan and that the Subcommittee would be requesting feedback from the Accessibility Advisory Committee. Ms. Cotton further stated that there were 72 recommendations in the Age-Friendly Whitby Action Plan that would be reviewed. She advised that accessibility features, such as listening equipment within the Town's facilities, would be a priority as part of the Town's reopening plan.

Liam Lacy and Dave MacKinnon requested further information regarding the review of the Age-Friendly Whitby Action Plan and attending the Subcommittee meetings.

5.3 Subcommittee Update

Site Plans and Built Environment Subcommittee

Denise Laframboise advised that six site plans were reviewed including:

- concerns regarding the slope and elevation at the Pringle Creek trail and bridge;
- the Comprehensive Zoning By-law review;
- a sorting facility and distribution centre at 5185 Garrard Road;
- concerns regarding visibility, greenspace, and pedestrian networks for the subdivision at Anderson Street and Conlin Road;
- concerns regarding sidewalks for the subdivision at 5095, 5125, and 5245 Anderson Street and Saint Thomas Street; and,
- concerns regarding visibility, accessibility, and sidewalks for the subdivision at Columbus Road and Baldwin Street.

Customer Service and Communications Subcommittee

Paul Scott provided updates for the Customer Service and Communications Subcommittee which included:

- the Age-Friendly Whitby Action Plan review and obtaining raw data from the historical survey that was completed;
- site traffic on the Accessibility Advisory Committee's webpage; and,
- launching the Accessibility Awareness Campaign in early May 2021.

Michele Cotton advised that the Accessibility Awareness Campaign would begin with a broad focus strategy followed by the launch of the Community Survey. Ms. Cotton stated that the Community Survey would be used to determine areas of focus for the Town to raise community awareness on accessibility and accessibility initiatives. She requested feedback from the Committee regarding the Accessibility Awareness Campaign strategy.

6. Correspondence

- 6.1** Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Community Services Department, and Public Works Department Joint Report, CAO 11-21
Re: 2021 Earth Day and Provincial Day of Action on Litter Celebrations

Jeffrey Beaton requested that the correspondence regarding 2021 Earth Day and Provincial Day of Action on Litter Celebrations be reviewed by Members of the Committee and received for information purposes.

It was the consensus of the Committee to hear Item 8, Other Business, at this time.

7. Council Update

- 7.1** Councillor Yamada provided an update regarding:

- the Metrolinx Bus Rapid Transit presentation at the Special Council meeting on April 22, 2021;
- the Downtown Whitby Secondary Plan presentation at the Committee of the Whole meeting on May 3, 2021; and,
- a motion to remove tolls on Highways 412 and 418 at the Regular Council meeting on April 26, 2021.

8. Other Business

8.1 Metrolinx Communication

Michele Cotton advised that Metrolinx sent communication to the Town regarding design plan changes to the Bus Rapid Transit project.

Denise Laframboise inquired about whether Metrolinx should be invited to provide a presentation to the Accessibility Advisory Committee regarding the design plan changes that relate to accessibility.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- contacting Metrolinx;
- creating a list of issues the Accessibility Advisory Committee would like Metrolinx to address during a presentation;
- addressing accessible parking in downtown Whitby;
- addressing mobility issues and the interface between the north-south and east-west public transit routes;
- addressing changes in traffic patterns and usage resulting from COVID-19; and,
- concerns related to school bus routes.

It was the consensus of the Committee to hear Item 7, Council Update, at this time.

8.2 June Presentations

Michele Cotton advised that there was an open house regarding the Comprehensive Zoning By-law Review. Ms. Cotton suggested that the Planning and Development Department be invited to provide a presentation on the Comprehensive Zoning By-law Review and the Downtown Whitby Secondary Plan in June 2021.

9. Next Meeting

**9.1 Tuesday, June 1, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting**

10. Adjournment

10.1 Motion to Adjourn

Recommendation:

Moved By Denise Laframboise

That the meeting adjourn.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Note: These minutes were approved by the Accessibility Advisory Committee on June 1, 2021.