



City of Brockville

Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes

1:00 PM - Tuesday, October 24, 2023
City Hall, Council Chambers

The Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting was called to order on Tuesday, October 24, 2023, at 1:00 PM, in the City Hall, Council Chambers, with the following present:

Members Present: Ryan Billing, Greg Bamber, Mary Ann Greenwood, Doug Hone, Janet Jones, and Louise Severson
Regrets:
Staff: Lynn Murray, Acting City Clerk

1. Chair's Remarks

Co-chair Jones noted that it has been a stressful time since the Committee found out, as did the rest of the city, there was going to be changes to the Para transit system. She noted that the decision of Council will happen this evening at the regular Council meeting. At this point the city will show us how they plan to create a system to be able to give us the transit plan that will be equal to or better than what we currently have.

The role of BMAAC is to advise Council on matters of accessibility and there is so much more we need to address.

Co-chair Jones acknowledged and thanked Councillor Severson for all her efforts to listen to our concerns throughout the city.

Co-chair Jones suggested as we move on, users of the new system of para transit keep records of their use, what did not go well and certainly what did go well.

2. Disclosure of Interest

Nil.

3. Adoption of the Minutes

Nil.

4. Delegations/Presentations

1. Para transit
Stan Marshall

S. Marshall read a letter from Patricia Spindel that was sent to Ms. MacDonald on October 19th. To this point to his knowledge there has been no response from the City.

S. Marshall feels that the move to have para transit handled by the city was never about safety, it was strictly monetary.

He referred to an incident where a city bus hit a building on Laurier Blvd. The report explained that two occupants of the bus were injured, one being the driver. He add that it took four months to fix the bus.

5. Correspondence & Communications

Nil.

6. Staff Reports

1. Service Policy

The policy was reviewed. Member Hone feels they need to have a special meeting to deal specifically with this policy. Staff was happy to participate in an additional meeting. Staff advised that it would go before Council for adoption in principle. The committee set the date of November 7, 2023, at 1:30 pm for a working group meeting before the next official meeting.

7. New Business

1. Increasing Membership of the Committee

The committee thought social media would be a good way to get the word out that they are looking for new members. Staff will have a discussion with the city's communication people about this.

Co-chair Greenwood suggested that the chairs appear on a show on Cogeco titled, FYI with Doreen Barnes, to let the public know what the committee is all about and hopefully entice some new members.

2. Para Transit - Ridership Survey

There was a discussion regarding the vehicle. Co-chair Jones would like this to be shared so that the survey can be expanded.

3. 1000 Island Boat Races (Ferry St. closure)

Member Hone detailed that during this weekend that Ferry Street is closed and used for camping. This creates barriers for anyone wishing to enter the tunnel. He suggested that the mouth of street needs to be remain open.

Staff will make note of this for this for next year.

4. Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

This item will be covered at the next meeting.

5. Audit - Art Centre

Member Bamber had attended a production at the Art Centre recently and found several barriers for anyone using a mobility device. Member Bamber feels it's time that an accessibility audit be done by this committee.

6. Parking Spaces

- Rotary Park
- Home Street
- St. Lawrence Park
- Parking Lot at Market Street

Member Bamber noted there are no accessible parking spots in any of these lots. The members suggested they need to do another audit.

8. Adjournment

Moved by Member Greenwood

THAT the BMAAC meeting be adjourned until its next regular meeting scheduled for November 28, 2023.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm.