



City of Brockville Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes

1:00 PM - Tuesday, January 24, 2023
City Hall, Boardroom

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

Members Present: Greg Bamber, Ryan Billing, Mary Ann Greenwood, Doug Hone, and Councillor Louise Severson
Regrets:
Staff: Dayna Golledge, Administrative Coordinator - Planning/COA Secretary-Treasurer (Recording Secretary)

1. CHAIR'S REMARKS

Chair Billing welcomed committee members. He noted that the last meeting with the Director of Operations, Phil Wood, went well and that it was great to learn about the City's approach in terms of planning with safety, liability and accessibility in mind.

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Moved by Member Hone

THAT the minutes of the Brockville Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting dated November 22, 2022 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Chair Billings noted that following the meeting with Director of Operations, Phil Wood, it was decided that site visits to Blockhouse Island and Hardy park would be done in the spring to discuss accessibility needs.

Member Greenwood added that the proposed 2023 City Budget did not specify the types of picnic tables being ordered. Chair Billings stated that he would work with P. Wood to attempt to create a policy which factors in accessible tables in future orders.

The committee reviewed discussions held at the last meeting regarding changing the verbiage in City by-laws by removing outdated terms such as "disabled" and "handicapped." The committee would like City staff to investigate the process and possible timing to review and update City by-laws to reflect updated accessibility terms, starting with the most often used by-laws.

Transit fees to and from Sherwood Park Manor and Rosedale Retirement Homes were revisited. Member Greenwood will set up a meeting with the Township of Elizabethtown-Kitley and the retirement home family associations to discuss possible solutions to decrease fees.

5. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

6. CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATIONS

Nil.

7. STAFF REPORTS

Nil.

8. NEW BUSINESS

1. Request for Exploration of Accessible Beach Mat Installation

Moved by Member Greenwood

THAT staff investigate the viability and costs associated with land preparation and installation of accessible beach matting at St. Lawrence Park and report back to the committee; and

THAT the BMAAC requests the City install an asphalt path and concrete pad, including accessible picnic tables, on the east side of St. Lawrence Park in close proximity to the beach.

CARRIED

The committee discussed engaging City staff in the process of identifying conditions and any restrictions with the beach area at St. Lawrence Park prior to purchasing equipment. Committee members suggested creating parking spaces at the bottom of the hill as well as a paved walkway extension and pad to aid in accessing the beach.

2. Purchase and Development of Water Wheelchair

Moved by Committee member Bamber

THAT BMAAC suggest purchasing one water wheelchair to be used exclusively at the Rotary Park Splash Pad as part of a pilot project; and

THAT City staff be engaged to assist with purchasing the product and implementing the project.

CARRIED

The committee discussed the possibility of having a water wheelchair available for citizens to book and use at the splash pad and/or St. Lawrence Park. Chair Billings noted that other communities run successful programs by using a lock box for key pick up and return. The committee decided that it would be best to start with purchasing a water wheelchair to use at the splash pad first to use as part of a pilot project. The pilot project could provide insight into usage, maintenance and the sign out system.

3. Verbiage of By-Laws

Moved by Member Greenwood

THAT, staff investigate the process for updating City By-law's to reflect current accessibility verbiage; and

THAT staff report back to the Committee with what that process will entail and timelines to appropriately achieve equitable language as it relates to updating the By laws.

CARRIED

9. SUB-COMMITTEE AND MEMBER REPORTS/PROJECT UPDATES

Nil.

10. CAPITAL BUDGET - REVIEW

Nil.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Member Bamber

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.