

***Committee Minutes***

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ROLL CALL:

Mr. Ryan Billing, Chair  
Ms. Janet Jones, Vice Chair  
Ms. Mary Ann Greenwood  
Mr. Doug Hone  
Mr. Mel Watson

REGRETS:

Ms. Shannon Stilnovich

ABSENT:

Mr. Joseph Boisvenue  
Councillor M.J. McFall  
Mr. Ryan Annable

STAFF:

Ms. Kaylyn MacDonald (Recording Secretary)

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**DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

Nil.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by: Janet  
Seconded by: Mary Ann

THAT the Agenda for the August 26, 2014 meeting of Brockville Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee be approved.

CARRIED

**CHAIR'S REMARKS**

The Chair discussed the need to look at future funding opportunities as the current revenue from parking fines will likely drop off. Discussed the possibility of forming a subcommittee to evaluate capital projects and prepare costings so that report

templates can be drawn up and ready when government funding becomes available.

### **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

Moved by: Janet  
Seconded by: Doug

THAT the minutes of the Brockville Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting dated June 24, 2014 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

### **NEW BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Ryan spoke with Greg Healy regarding the changes in the Ontario Building Code which seem to point to a need for these alarms in public buildings. Ryan will be meeting with Greg again to discuss what is needed so that costing can get done.

Discussion of accessible picnic tables and audible signals and the subject of tactile paving. Ryan has looked in to costing of this paving, and has some rough numbers from other municipalities. Discussed whether the pavement could impede scooters and wheelchairs. Pointed out some slight impediment could be useful as a cautionary measure in some areas like Blockhouse. Committee also discussed its implementation from an operations standpoint (snowplowing) and its durability. Discussed possibly contacting neighbouring municipalities to get their feedback.

The Crow's Nest on Blockhouse has made some changes to improve some of their accessibility issues. A-board signs have been removed as have some of the railings. Ryan spoke to Conal regarding the continuing accessibility concerns. Ryan also received a call from the Tourism office during the Hydroplane Regatta to come down to Blockhouse to address temporary fencing that had been erected. The Tourism office was concerned that the fencing was impeding accessibility (which it was). Appreciated that the issue was addressed, however, Ryan pointed out that ideally the committee should not be enforcing accessibility standards, only advising on them.

Discussed Mel's links to accessibility project. Ryan was contacted by Dave LeSueur who would like to get involved with the project. Also hoping to get the Brock Trail committee and Brockville Cycling Advisory Committee involved.

### **DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

Nil.

## **CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATIONS**

### 7.1 MMAH - New Accessibility Amendments to Ontario's Building Code

Committee discussed the amendments that will come into effect in January 2015 and how it will affect existing residential properties and new builds. There does not yet seem to be clear numbers on what the scope of a renovation to an existing building would have to be, in order for the new standards to apply. Rules for visual alarms in multi-residential units are clear, as are regulations for providing a set number of barrier-free units/washrooms. Committee acknowledged that property developers will be facing a tall order to meet these regulations as almost 20% more floor space is often needed to make an apartment accessible. Committee discussed good news in the community regarding the Brockville YMCA's plan to renovate in order to install lifts and change tables in their washrooms.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Nil.

## **CAPITAL BUDGET - REVIEW**

August 2014 Update

Regarding the budget, the committee discussed that the planned \$5,000.00 capital project at the Brockville Gymnastics Club for a new door and sidelight will not be going forward and the budget should therefore be adjusted.

## **SUB-COMMITTEE AND MEMBER REPORTS/PROJECT UPDATES**

Nil.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### 11.1 Visual Alarm Systems

Ryan will speak with Greg about what standards public buildings should be meeting for visual alarms, especially as it relates to the changes in the building code. Janet offered to contact the Hearing Society to see what information they might have.

### 11.2 Museum Accessibility relating to Budget Items

Spoke with Natalie regarding the committee's concerns. There seems to be some confusion as far as what constitutes a walkway/pathway. The main thing is that the people are using what is there and it is not accessible enough. There is a dangerous

ditch near a ramp that has a sign that is of no use to a visually impaired person.

#### 11.3 BMAAC Awards date

Committee discussed when to present this year's award. After some discussion as to whether to wait to present the award to the current council or the newly elected one in January, decided to move ahead and present the award in September. Ryan will also speak to Brenda about the award to be handed out to a business and possibly tying the presentation in to a chamber event.

#### 11.4 Building Audits - Museum and Library

The library has requested that the committee perform an audit of their building. The committee discussed also completing an audit at the museum as it has been some time since the last one was done.

#### 11.5 "Good/Bad" List

The committee discussed if there were any annual reports or need for a new accessibility plan to be created. None are required and the committee pointed out that there is a need to focus on what still must be addressed from the last plan. Idea of creating a short "good and bad" list summary to present to council of positive outcomes in improving accessibility and any that still need to be improved. Could be an opportunity to show council gaps in what needs to be done.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by: Doug  
Seconded by: Mel

THAT the BMAAC meeting be adjourned until its next regular meeting scheduled for September 23, 2014.

CARRIED