
ROLL CALL:

Mr. Ryan Billing, Chair
Ms. Janet Jones, Vice Chair
Ms. Mary Ann Greenwood
Mr. Doug Hone
Ms. Shannon Stilnovich

ABSENT:

Councillor Dave LeSueur
Mr. Ryan Annable
Mr. Mel Watson

STAFF:

Ms. Lynn Murray, Deputy City Clerk (Recording Secretary)

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm.

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Janet
Seconded by: Shannon

THAT the Agenda for the November 26, 2013 meeting of Brockville Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee be approved.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Moved by: Janet
Seconded by: Doug

THAT the minutes of the Brockville Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting dated October 22, 2013 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. Audible Signals

Ryan circulated the list of priority intersections created by the Transit Sub Committee in 2008. (separately attached to the minutes) Janet wondered why we couldn't contact area businesses to see if they could find financial support as the audible street lights could potentially increase their patronage. Mary Ann reminded the group that they had approached the new Rexall Pharmacy at the corner of Pearl and William in the past. Ryan confirmed that they had sent them a letter suggesting this would help their customers approach the store, but they never received a response.

DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Linda Bosch

Linda introduced herself and Mike Geneau who were in attendance today to talk about adding crosswalks on King Street. Linda explained her situation and told how difficult it is for a person with vision limitations to safely cross King street to get to a bus stop without walking two blocks to the nearest crosswalk. Even then, it can be dangerous.

Ryan explained that this concern has gone to Valerie Harvey in the Transportation department as well and they are going to see what they can do to remedy this situation.

CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATIONS

Nil

STAFF REPORTS

Nil

CAPITAL BUDGET - REVIEW

Nil

SUB-COMMITTEE AND MEMBER REPORTS/PROJECT UPDATES

Nil

NEW BUSINESS

1. Scent Policy Development

Ryan would like this committee to move forward with a "No-Scent Policy". He referred to a copy of Kingston's which was adopted in 2008. He thinks we need to work on it, follow the example of Kingston's and get it in place in the next couple of months.

2. Review of Meeting with Conal Cosgrove

Ryan highlighted the areas addressed during his meeting and site visits with Conal Cosgrove and Earle Moore. They began with the patio at Blockhouse Island. Conal explained that since it is a City property the proprietor didn't have to go through the same process as a private property business owner would. Therefore that is why the drawings didn't come to the BMAAC Committee. As it turns out the patio differs from the drawings. Conal confirmed that these concerns (or lack thereof) will be addressed prior to patio season 2014.

They also looked at the Accessible parking spot issue and will also see that it is rectified and directional signage is installed. Regarding the main grassy part in the centre of the island; Conal proposes to have some curb cuts done from the parking lot as well as build a path or two and create a flat cemented area which will have a couple of accessible picnic tables installed.

Janet wondered if there was any thought given to the danger of a scooter or chair going over the boardwalk edge into the river. Ryan said they had discussed it but were unable to come up with a suitable solution at this time.

In addition, Operations will be doing an inventory of park benches and confirming the need for accessible benches. From here they will develop a plan.

Once again the Tourism office's lack of accessibility was addressed. It is Ryan's understanding at the moment that the Tourism office is scheduled to move into the Rowing Club early in 2014. Lynn mentioned that at a recent EDP meeting Steve Weir and Ann McDonald of Tourism and the Chamber of Commerce told how it is their hope to someday amalgamate these two offices in a new or renovated facility on Blockhouse Island.

Ryan explained that they had discussed the Rotary Field House bathrooms etc. He discussed the peculiar agreement where this is a city owned building but it is managed by the Soccer Club. The committee wasn't sure of how much activity the field house sees, especially in the off season. They are going to revisit their building audit and possibly get an estimate on the cost involved in order to prioritize the project accordingly.

Finally Ryan relayed the information obtained on the Museum. Conal agreed that the railing on the stairs/ramp is a necessity and will see that it is installed as soon as possible. He was also concerned over the fact that there is no Accessible parking and felt this could be easily rectified. Ryan is unsure as to whether this will be considered at a cost to BMAAC or city buildings. It was agreed that Janet would follow up with Natalie over the sound system and exactly what they currently have in order to decide if something needs to be updated.

3. Cycling/Brock Trail Initiatives

Ryan feels that there are too many groups all separately working on the same projects. He would like to see one group formed from all the subsidiary committees with the same goal in mind. For example the Cycling committee and the Brock Trail committee are both concerned and working on the Brock Trail. John Taylor and Alan Medcalf need support from the various committees. The committee feels it would be good if there could be a subcommittee created with a member from each of the interested parties. Suggestions from BMAAC were Doug and Mel.

4. Transit Service Extension

A transit service extension is being proposed in the 2014 Budget. It would see the hours increase from the current 7 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday and 9 am to 6 pm on Saturday by adding one bus 6 pm to 11 pm to hit all the major stops on a six month trial basis. Ryan was happy to see that Valerie had addressed the Para transit and the fact that it must be offered at parity to the conventional system.

Ryan asked the committee how they felt about the draft letter to Valerie Harvey, Supervisor of Transportation Services he had circulated in support of this project. Everyone agreed the letter was good and Ryan should forward it on.

5. Sightline for Safety - Fire Hall 1 Building Audit

Janet explained that she and Lynn had attended this event on November 15, hosted by the Canadian Hearing Society. She explained that it is a new program which includes flashing lights and or bed shakers that can be installed in a hearing impaired persons home.

In addition, Janet mentioned that the direct entrance into this room at Fire Station 1 is not accessible and thinks it is something that needs to be addressed. The committee thought they could revisit the building audit (if there is one) and see if this can be rectified. However it was clarified that if you enter the training room through the main entrance of the Fire Hall that is accessible.

Janet would like an investigation done in order to have these accessible fire alarms installed in City facilities which are frequented by the public like the Library, Museum and the Arenas.

The committee would like to invite the Fire Chief, Chris Dwyre to their next meeting.

6. July 1 - Hardy Park Event

Janet explained she had run into the organizers of this event and they are keen to have BMAAC participate again this summer.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Mary Ann

Seconded by: Janet

THAT the BMAAC meeting be adjourned until its next regular meeting scheduled for January 28, 2014.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.