

Brockville Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee

Tuesday, January 27, 2015, 1:00 pm
City Hall, Boardroom

Committee Minutes

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Ryan Billing, Chair
Ms. Colleen Cooke
Ms. Mary Ann Greenwood
Mr. Doug Hone
Ms. Shannon Stilnovich
Councillor L. Bursey

ABSENT:

Mr. Joseph Boisvenue
Mr. Mel Watson

STAFF:

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

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Leigh
Seconded by: Mary Ann

THAT the Agenda for the January 27, 2015 meeting of Brockville Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee be approved.

CARRIED

CHAIR'S REMARKS

Ryan took a minute to introduce Councillor Bursey, Council Representation for 2015 and Colleen Cooke who is a new member on the committee. Ryan also explained that Janet Jones has retired from the formal committee but will still be helping out on the side.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Moved by: Mary Ann

Seconded by: Doug

THAT the minutes of the Brockville Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting dated November 25, 2014 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. Visual Alarms

Ryan offered an update on the alarms. He has spoken with Sandi regarding the alarms. She pointed out that when prioritizing these facilities City Hall should be the least important. Sandi said that 99% of people in City Hall are there to meet/see someone so are always accompanied.

Sandi will report back and then Randy Watson in MIS and Greg Healy at the Fire Department can move forward on this project.

2. Museum Railings

Ryan updated the group; this project has been slotted in for spring installation once the ground has thawed. Mary Ann wanted to make sure that there will not be any major adjustment made to the whole sidewalk entrance area in the near future, or this would be wasted money. The committee felt that the maybe the project should be put off until September to ensure that the redesign of the area is not in the plans. They decided the motion made at the previous meeting needed to be amended.

Moved by: Mary Ann

Seconded by: Doug

THAT two railings be installed on the front walk way at the Museum for a maximum cost of \$8,500; and

THAT this work not be completed until September 2015 to await a decision on the redesign of the entire corner.

CARRIED

3. Library Book Drop off

Ryan reviewed the situation detailed in last month's minutes regarding this subject. Lynn explained that this has been dealt with and the Libraries CEO will now be using a parking lot, so the parking spot she had been using that impeded the book drop off slot should now be left open at all times.

4. Accessible Document Training

Ryan reiterated a discussion he had with Sandi where it was defined that any funding provided by the City has been made available for any accessible needs. Should the City require it to train staff on creating accessible documents it will be used.

5. Accessible Map

Ryan reviewed the map Mel Watson had created explaining that it has laid out the most accessible routes to the key destinations downtown. He added that they are hoping to collaborate with Tourism to have it incorporated in the next maps they print.

6. Accessible Parking Spots - painting

The committee briefly discussed the need to paint the pavement under the accessible spots again. They are mostly in favour of this practice but are unsure of how much time and money it will add to maintain these spots.

DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATIONS

Nil.

STAFF REPORTS

Nil.

CAPITAL BUDGET - REVIEW

The committee would like to see projects that are in the works included on the budget with estimates of potential costs.

SUB-COMMITTEE AND MEMBER REPORTS/PROJECT UPDATES

1. BMAAC Support of Age Friendly Communities

Ryan said he had just met with Dawn Edgely of the local chapter of CARP regarding their application for the Age Friendly Designation. They feel that by following the AODA guidelines they are meeting the criteria in the application concerning people with disabilities. Ryan had offered to give her a letter of support from the committee, the committee agreed this was a good idea.

2. Conventional Bus Trials

Ryan explained that this was a pilot that offered normal para transit users the chance to be accompanied in a group to try the conventional buses. They were given a day pass by the Transportation Supervisor to experiment on each route. It was very well received. They are taking names and creating a waiting list, once they have an additional 10 people or so they will do it again. Ryan added that it is a great chance to help get over the anxiety of trying the conventional system which in the end can offer the patron much more freedom.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Good/Bad List

Ryan reviewed the following list for the committee.

Successes:

- Fare parity for both transit systems (enacted ahead of legislation)
- Accessible playground development in the downtown core (Hardy Park partnership with May Court Club & partnership with the Rotary Park Revitalization Committee)
- Accessibility of Band Shell @ Hardy Park
- Accessible lifts to stage and orchestra pit at BAC
- Sound system upgrades at City Hall (FM system capability)
- Accessible audit updates: Memorial Centre, Arts Centre (in conjunction with renovation project), Library,
- Installation of audible signals (King St. & Parkedale Ave.)
- Development and implementation of audible signal plan throughout city (assistance from CNIB)-on going
- Development of accessible picnic table policy throughout city parks- in process
- Site Plan Reviews
- Development of Patio Policy in relation to seasonal Patio installation in downtown core

- Curb cut plan development and monitoring
- Accessible Washroom facilities at city parks (St. Lawrence Park, Centeen, Hardy, Memorial Centre)
- Accessible Parking Spots Lots
- Creation of Community Event Accessibility Checklist
- Accessibility of Sir Isaac Brock Monument area
- Accessible Mapping/Identification- on-going

Awareness Initiatives:

- Accessibility Forums
- Hosted Accessibility: Technology in Leeds & Grenville Event
- Participation in NAAW activities
- Creation of promotional Materials to educate public about BMAAC & AODA

Gaps:

- Accessible taxi service lost
- Brock Trail Upgrade----accessible linkage of our attractions/downtown core
- Blockhouse Island- walkways/centre island/washroom facilities
- Transit stop accessibility issues
- Scent free policy development
- Rotary Field House Accessibility
- Upgrades to Brockville Museum
- Tourism Office Accessibility

Goals:

- Accessible linkage/opportunity to access docks/islands
- Website accessibility (also upgrade the BMAAC page with more relevant useful info)
- Better communication with key private sector entities (ex. power centre)
- Ryan said that Sandi is working on the "accessible taxi". There was a discussion on potentially obtaining a used vehicle from an agency replacing theirs. Ryan feels that they are very well used and not fit for further use.
- Ryan would like everyone to review the list so they can refer to it at the next meeting.

2. Accessible Home Street

Due to time constraints this item will be reviewed at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Leigh

Seconded by: Mary Ann

THAT the BMAAC meeting be adjourned until its next regular meeting scheduled for February 24, 2015.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm.