



**City Of Kingston
Municipal Accessibility
Advisory Committee
Meeting Number 04-2019
Confirmed Minutes
Thursday, June 6, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.
Press Lounge, Portsmouth Olympic Harbour**

Committee Members Present

Donald Mitchell; Chair
Councillor Neill
Caitlin Bruce
David Grightmire
Jana Mareckova
Leah Riddell
Sheri Scott
Nancy Watters (left meeting at 3:00 p.m.)
Shawn Watters (left meeting at 3:00 p.m.)
David Williams

Regrets

Andrew Ashby
Aimee Burtch
Andrew Jones
Arthur Laramie
Nancy Shitta-Bey
Emily Su

Staff Members Present

Speros Kanellos, Director, Facility Management and Construction Services
Andrea Labey, Facility Operations Coordinator
Dave Mignault, Manager, Organizational Development
Greg Newman, Manager, Policy Planning
Derek Ochej, Committee Clerk
Julie Salter-Keane, Community Projects Manager
Julielee Stitt, Communications Officer
Neal Unsworth, Manager, Parks Development
Chris Wicke, Senior Planner

Meeting to Order

Mr. Mitchell, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Ms. Scott

Seconded by Councillor Neill

That the agenda be approved.

Carried

Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by Ms. Mareckova

Seconded by Mr. Watters

That the Minutes of Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Number 03-2019 held Thursday April 4, 2019 be approved.

Carried

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There were none.

Delegations

- a) Trevor Fray, Executive Director, Kingston Access Services, was present and spoke to the Committee regarding operations at Kingston Access Services.

Mr. Fray conducted a PowerPoint presentation regarding operations at Kingston Access Services, a copy of which may be obtained by contacting the City Clerk's Department.

Ms. Riddell inquired if a person could obtain a Kingston Access Services pass without receiving sign off from a physician. Mr. Fray responded that membership with a group such as the Canadian National Institute for the Blind card would also suffice. He added that in such a case additional documentation from a doctor would be required.

Ms. Bruce sought further details regarding the documentation required to utilize Kingston Access Services. Mr. Fray stated that any potential users need to demonstrate how their disability prevents them from using Kingston Transit.

Briefings

- a) Greg Newman, Manager, Policy Planning, was present and spoke to the Committee regarding Major Planning Policy Work.

Mr. Newman conducted a PowerPoint presentation regarding Major Planning Policy Work, a copy of which may be obtained by contacting the City Clerk's Department.

Mr. Williams inquired if accessible and affordable housing is included in policy regarding mid-town development. Mr. Newman stated that accessible and affordable housing is included as part of the City's population, employment and housing forecast report. Mr. Newman stated that the mid-rise development policy is focused on built form and not necessarily interior accessibility aspects.

Mr. Mitchell stated that an important consideration is how accessibility needs are captured in large scale planning projects such as secondary plans. He inquired as to how the Committee can have input on those areas, suggesting that a project team could be struck to help examine accessibility concerns with large-scale planning projects.

- b) Speros Kanellos, Director, Facility Management & Construction Services was present and spoke to the Committee regarding Facility Management & Construction Services Update.

Mr. Kanellos conducted a PowerPoint presentation regarding Facility Management & Construction Services Update, a copy of which may be obtained by contacting the City Clerk's Department.

Ms. Scott sought clarity on the definition of universal bathrooms versus gendered bathrooms. Ms. Kanellos stated that a universal bathroom is commonly known as a family bathroom. He stated that many new City facilities have both types of bathrooms, adding that discussion has been occurring with respect to gender-neutral bathrooms.

Ms. Scott inquired if wayfinding signage has included French. Mr. Kanellos stated wayfinding signage has been printed in English and Braille. Ms. Labey added that French has not been included in current signage but could be considered for future wayfinding signage.

Councillor Neill discussed maintenance problems with the elevator in City Hall and inquired if consideration had been given to installing a second elevator. Mr. Kanellos stated that the addition of a second elevator is limited by the heritage aspects and available space at City Hall.

Mr. Mitchell stated that the Central Library Branch is an excellent example of creating space that is accessible from a mental health point of view.

- c) Neal Unsworth, Manager, Parks Development was present and spoke to the Committee regarding Accessibility, Parks Development & Recreation Facilities.

Mr. Unsworth conducted a PowerPoint presentation regarding Accessibility, Parks Development & Recreation Facilities, a copy of which may be obtained by contacting the City Clerk's Department.

Councillor Neill sought further details regarding the potential for increasing tree canopy in parks. Mr. Unsworth stated that trees will be planted in parks in areas utilized by the public, adding that staff will follow Council direction with respect to increasing tree canopy.

Councillor Neill inquired if accessible trails would be included as part of the revitalization of Belle Park. Mr. Unsworth responded that staff would strive to create an accessible path network taking into account the unique circumstances of Belle Park. He stated that many of the paths would need to be granular due to the history of the site as a landfill as well as the focus on naturalization.

- d) David Mignault, Manger, Organizational Development was present and spoke to the Committee regarding Recruitment Strategy Outreach Update.

Mr. Mignault conducted a PowerPoint presentation regarding Recruitment Strategy Outreach Update, a copy of which may be obtained by contacting the City Clerk's Department.

Councillor Neill inquired if efforts had been made to catalogue work spaces that are not accessible. Mr. Mignault responded that staff from the Human Resources Department work directly with City staff to ensure that workspaces are accessible for individual employees.

Mr. Mitchell discussed the provincial funding available for efficiency audits. He stated that he did not wish to see job losses occur in the name of efficiency, expressing concern from a mental health accessibility point of view. Mr. Mignault responded that the City has placed a focus on mental health training for all City employees.

- e) Julie Salter-Keane, Community Projects Manager, was present and spoke to the Committee regarding Facility Accessibility Design Standards Update.

Ms. Salter-Keane conducted a PowerPoint presentation regarding Facility Accessibility Design Standards Update, a copy of which may be obtained by contacting the City Clerk's Department.

Mr. Mitchell expressed his appreciation for the work completed by committee members past and present in the update to the Facility Accessibility Design Standards document.

Councillor Neill discussed requests received at Planning Committee regarding variance requests for reductions in accessible parking space dimensions. He stated that a conversation should be had with the Planning Department to ensure that these variance requests do not come forward. Ms. Salter-Keane responded that she has advised Planning staff that such requests should be flagged for review by the site plan accessibility project team.

- f) Julie Salter-Keane, Community Projects Manager, was present and spoke to the Committee regarding Accessibility Office Report – AccessAbility Week.

Ms. Salter-Keane conducted a PowerPoint presentation regarding Accessibility Office Report - AccessAbility Week, a copy of which may be obtained by contacting the City Clerk's Department.

Mr. Williams stated that the videos from AccessAbility Week have generated a significant interest in StopGap.

Business

a) Site Plan Accessibility Checklist

Mr. Wicke provided the Committee with an overview of the Report.

Mr. Williams spoke positively about the consultation process with City Planning Department staff with respect to the accessibility checklist.

Mr. Mitchell agreed with Mr. Williams' comments, stating that communications have improved greatly between Planning Department staff and site plan accessibility project team members.

b) Facilities Management and Construction Services

The Report was considered concurrently with Briefing b)

c) Accessibility, Parks Development and Recreation Facilities

The Report was considered concurrently with Briefing c)

d) Recruitment Outreach Strategy Update

The Report was considered concurrently with Briefing d)

e) Facility Accessibility Design Standards Update

The Report was considered concurrently with Briefing e)

Moved by Councillor Neill
Seconded by Mr. Williams

That the Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee recommends:

That Council approve the updated Facility Accessibility Design Standards, dated May 2019, attached as Exhibit A to Report Number MAAC-19-009.

Carried

f) Accessibility Office Report

The Report was considered concurrently with Briefing f)

Ms. Watters and Mr. Watters left the meeting.

The meeting concluded due to lack of quorum.