

DATE: JANUARY 19, 2012

MEETING NO. 02-2012

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: THUNDER BAY 55 PLUS CENTRE
700 RIVER STREET

CHAIR: MS. T. SODERBERG

PRESENT:

Ms. C. Auger
Ms. K. Higginson
Mr. D. Lillington
Mr. M. Rubenick
Mr. R. Sponchia
Ms. T. Soderberg
Ms. A. Vaillant
Mr. R. Wheeler

ABSENT

Councillor R. Johnson
Ms. S. Bryenton
Mr. J. Duncanson

OFFICIALS:

Ms. D. Heinrich, Supervisor Community Partnerships
Mr. S. Holloway, Inclusion Coordinator
Mr. G. Stover, Committee Coordinator

COMMUNICATION SERVICES

Ms. J. McMacken, ASL Interpreter

GUESTS

Mr. D. Glena, Operations Supervisor – Transit Division
Mr. J. Hendel, Planning & Marketing Analyst – Transit Division

1.0 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

ACTION

The Chair welcomed those in attendance and members introduced themselves.

2.0 COMMUNICATION PROCESS

Ms. K. Higginson, Culturally Deaf Representative, provided an overview of the communication process and procedures.

ACTION

3.0 AGENDA APPROVAL

MOVED BY: Mr. R. Sponchia
SECONDED BY: Mr. D. Lillington

With respect to the January 19, 2012 Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting, we recommend that the agenda as amended, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

4.0 THUNDER BAY TRANSIT

Mr. J. Hendel, Planning & Marketing Analyst – Transit Division and Mr. D. Glenna, Operations Supervisor – Transit Division provided a PowerPoint Presentation and responded to questions relative to the following:

- Priority seating (seat must be vacated for occupiers with a disability) vs. courtesy seating (secondary area for elderly, person with a child, etc.).
- New signs will be posted on buses indicating priority seating areas.
- Ride guides with information pertaining to the priority and courtesy seating are being created.
- The Committee was advised that the bus operator does not have enforcement powers but a supervisor can be called to the scene.
- Rear facing wheelchair areas are going to be implemented.
- Bus operator training is to begin shortly to increase awareness and responsibility as well as stressing that assistance is to be given only upon request.
- Complaints regarding a bus operator can be submitted to the Transit Division and a supervisor will address the issue.
- If the number of users on a bus has reached the limit, the operator will advise the user of the next available bus time or arrange for other transportation such as a taxi at the expense of the user.
- The Committee was invited to tour the new buses when the retrofitting is complete and the updated accessibility features are installed/ implemented.

ACTION

5.0 TERMS OF REFERENCE WORKING GROUP

Discussion was held relative to establishing a working group to develop an action plan for the Terms of Reference.

**Mr. S.
Holloway**

Ms. T. Soderberg, Ms. C. Auger, Mr. R. Wheeler and Mr. M. Rubenick volunteered to sit on the working group.

6.0 NEW BUSINESS

Victoria Inn Tour Feedback

Mr. D. Lillington advised the Committee that feedback relative to accessibility at the Victoria Inn has been compiled and will be presented to the Committee at the February meeting.

**Mr. G.
Stover**

7.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

The following matters of business were deferred to the next Committee meeting:

- Inclusion Services Office – Construction
- AAC Regional Forum Feedback
- Follow-up on Accessibility Issues identified by AAC during “Around the Table”
- Accessible Formats
- Active Transportation Committee
- Public Art Committee
- Walkability Committee

ACTION

8.0 NEXT MEETING

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. at 55 Plus Centre.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:32 p.m.