

COMMITTEE: Accessibility Advisory
 Committee (AAC)

MEETING NO.: 03-2019

TIME: 1:30 – 3:30 P.M.

DATE: Thursday,
 March 14, 2019

PLACE: West Thunder Community Centre
 915 Edward Street, Thunder Bay

CHAIR: Mr. Kai Crites

MEMBERS:	SECTOR REPRESENTATIVE	OFFICIALS:
Mr. K. Crites	- Mental Health	Ms. K. Power, Deputy City Clerk
Mr. J. Gobeil	- Citizen at Large	Mr. S. Garner, Municipal Accessibility Specialist
Ms. D. Hamilton	- Speech Impairment	Ms. F. Track, Committee Coordinator
Ms. R. Harrison	- Service Agency	RESOURCES:
Councillor R. Johnson	- Council Representative	Mr. B. Maxwell, Inclusion Services
Ms. T. Lennox	- Learning Disability	GUESTS:
Mr. M. Rubenick	- Senior with a Disability	Ms. K. Charlton, Property Agent – Realty Services
Mr. B. Spare	- Hard of Hearing/Late Deafened	Ms. K. Dixon, Director of Engineering
Ms. T. Soderberg	- Visually Impaired or Blind	Mr. M. Miedema, Project Engineer
Mr. R. Wheeler	- Brain Injury	

AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair called the meeting to order and a roundtable of introductions followed.

2. COMMUNICATION PROCESS

The communication process was explained and Mr. B. Spare agreed to keep the speakers list

Minutes

MEETING NO.: 03-2019

DATE: March 14, 2019

PAGE: 2 OF: 6

3. AGENDA APPROVAL

MOVED BY: Ms. T. Lennox
SECONDED BY: Ms. R. Harrison

With respect to the March 14, 2019 meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

4. PRESENTATIONS

Pop - Up Patio's Pilot Project

Ms. K. Charlton, Property Agent – Realty Services, provided an update relative to the above and a discussion followed.

Media Release dated March 4, 2019 – The City of Thunder Bay will be extending the *Pop-Up Patio Pilot* until 2020 to allow temporary, seasonal patios and seating areas to be built in front of businesses.

The pilot was originally launched in May 2018. Feedback was then gathered from businesses and the public on how to improve the program, resulting in changes to the program this year. 950 responses were gathered and only 4 negative comments relative to access over sidewalks were received.

Patios will be extended onto the street rather than on the sidewalk, utilizing a parking space in front of the business. This will not impact accessible parking, as any displaced accessible parking will be accommodated. All applications received must be accompanied by a blueprint, will be reviewed, deficiencies will be noted and modifications to the design will be required prior to a permit being issued. There is an administration fee as well as \$100.00/ agreement.

The Chair thanked Ms. Charlton for appearing before the committee.

Minutes

MEETING NO.: 03-2019

DATE: March 14, 2019

PAGE: 3 OF: 6

Roundabouts

Ms. K. Dixon, Director of Engineering, and Mr. M. Miedema, Project Engineer, provided information relative to Roundabouts in The City of Thunder Bay. Drawing entitled “Site Plan – Victoria Ave Roundabout” was distributed Thursday, February 11, 2019 on desks.

Mr. M. Miedema provided an overview of the proposed Roundabout on Victoria Avenue at Lillie Street.

- The location was chosen by the Engineering & Operations Division
- Supported by the City's Transportation Master Plan
- Traffic lights at the intersection of Lillie Street and Victoria Avenue East will be removed
- Lillie Street will become a one-way northbound street
- Pedestrian crossover will be installed at the west side of the roundabout
- Transit route optimization in place
- Proposed Roundabout recommendation to go to Council in May 2019

Ms. K. Dixon provided an overview of the 2 Open Houses that were held in January 2019 which encouraged public consultation. Concerns brought forward during these sessions were:

- Traffic detouring through residential areas
- Backing out of driveways

During discussion relative to the above noted some concerns were raised by the AAC members:

- Pedestrian crosswalks without audible or visible signals is a major concern as trying to cross 4 lanes of traffic without accessible signals can be deadly with increased numbers of electric vehicles on roads
- Tactile walking surface at crosswalks
- By connecting a recreation trail at this location are the crosswalk accessibility requirements reduced?
- Bikes are allowed on a recreation trail but not on sidewalks
- Speed of traffic approaching

Minutes

MEETING NO.: 03-2019

DATE: March 14, 2019

PAGE: 4 OF: 6

- Traffic study being done in winter months does not provide accurate pedestrian numbers
- Accessibility in the winter months to crosswalks and Transit stops
- High number of Senior's in the area

The Chair thanked Ms. Dixon and Mr. Miedema for appearing before the AAC.

The meeting recessed for a coffee break at 2:37 P.M.

The meeting reconvened at 2:47 p.m.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting No. 02-2019 of the Accessibility Advisory Committee held on February 14, 2019 were distributed with the agenda on Thursday, March 7, 2019 to members of the AAC.

MOVED BY: Mr. B. Spare

SECONDED BY: Mr. R. Wheeler

THAT the Minutes of Meetings No. 02-2019 of the Accessibility Advisory Committee, held on February 14, 2019, be confirmed.

CARRIED

6. 2019 AAC OPEN HOUSE

Mr. S. Garner, Municipal Accessibility Specialist provided an update relative to the above noted.

Plans have been made to host this year's Open House during the 3rd Annual National Accessibility Week. Further details are:

Location - Castlegreen Community Centre, 213 Castlegreen Dr. Thunder Bay ON

Minutes

MEETING NO.: 03-2019

DATE: March 14, 2019

PAGE: 5 OF: 6

Dates - Thursday, May 30, 2019

Time - 6:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

Attendance -

Transportation - for members will be with Lift +

Presentations - survey to be provided

Other Resources Attending - Transit Services and CNIB

Mr. M. Rubenick and Mr. K. Crites offered to assist in the preparations.

7. ROUNDTABLE OF ACCESSIBILITY ISSUES

Committee members reported on accessibility issues encountered or identified in the community.

8. WORKING GROUP UPDATES

8.1 Built Environment

Mr. S. Garner, Municipal Accessibility Specialist, provided an update relative to the Built Environment Working Group. They last met on November 6, 2018 with Roberta (Bobbi) Tait, Planning & Research Analyst - Project Development, to review plans for the new Human Resources space in Victoriaville Civic Centre. They also consulted with Ms. Dana Earle and Mr. Shahrzad Borjian, from Transit Services at the City Hall transit shelters to discuss lowering the button to activate the heaters.

8.2 Public Art Committee

No updates at this time.

8.3 Walkability Committee

No updates at this time.

Minutes

MEETING NO.: 03-2019

DATE: March 14, 2019

PAGE: 6 OF: 6

9. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. F. Track provided a verbal update relative to scheduled Transit Signage replacement, for information. Replacement of the signs will begin this week and take approximately 3 weeks to complete. They are replacing the Green signs with Blue signs that are accessible.

NEXT MEETING

The Accessibility Advisory Committee will meet on the 2nd Thursday of every month, except July, August and December, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., at the West Thunder Community Centre, 915 Edward Street South, Thunder Bay, unless otherwise notified.

- Thursday, April 11, 2019
- Thursday, May 9, 2019
- AAC Open House - Thursday, May 30, 2019
- Thursday, June 13, 2019
- No meeting in July 2019
- No meeting in August 2019
- Thursday, September 12, 2019
- Thursday, October 10, 2019
- Thursday, November 14, 2019

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.