

Advisory Committee on Accessibility

October 28, 2019

Ontario Room

5:00 PM

Attendance:

Barry Martin, Chair, Brian Lynch, Laura Meffen, Jewell Lofsky, Rita Lam, Anna Giallonardo, Kaushi Ragunathan, Meenu Khanna, George George, Valerie Kitazaki, Cheryl McConney-Wilson, Diversity Specialist and Grace Lombardi, Legislative Coordinator

Regrets:

Councillor Isa Lee, Robert Hunn, Vice Chair, Nahid Verma, and Elaine Vollett

Item	Discussion	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Call to Order	The Advisory Committee on Accessibility convened at 5:02 pm with Barry Martin presiding, as Chair.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accessible Parks	<p>Richard Fournier, Manager, Parks & Open Space Development and Scott Grieve, Supervisor, Parks were in attendance to discuss accessible parks. They explained the process to redevelop a park, and to construct a new park.</p> <p>Committee Members expressed their concern with City parks not being accessible. It also noted the importance of the Committee being consulted on the development of new parks, and the reconstruction of existing parks within the City of Markham in regards to their accessibility.</p> <p>Barry Martin recommended the Committee compile a list of accessible products for parks to provide to the Planning & Urban Design and Operations Departments to review. Once reviewed, the final list will be provided to Council. Richard Fournier will provide the Committee with a list of items they should look for when researching accessible products for parks.</p>	<p>Committee members to compile a list of accessible products to provide to the parks department to review. Once reviewed the final list will be provided to Council.</p> <p>Richard Fournier will provide committee a list of items they should look for when researching accessible products.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Markham Accessibility Award	<p>The Committee provided positive feedback with respect to the 2019 Accessibility Award.</p> <p>The Sub-Committee presented the following ideas to the Committee for the 2020 Accessibility Award:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• January – have the nomination form available all year around and create criteria for judging of nominations;	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March – create a communication strategy and tools for promoting the award; August – execute the communication and awareness campaign. <p>Committee Members suggested having the award ceremony at a more accessible location/room.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Markham Accessibility Education and Fair 	<p>Committee Members decided not to do a Markham Accessibility Fair for 2019 and revisit it in the Fall of 2020.</p> <p>The Committee discussed focusing on the preparation of attending City Festivals in 2020.</p> <p>Committee Members discussed possibly having a booth at City Festivals to educate the public on accessibility and provide support for those attending the festivals. The Committee will require a 10 x 20 tent with the Markham logo to bring to the festivals. Cheryl advised she would contact the City's Corporate Communications Department to inquire on pricing of the tent.</p>	<p>Cheryl to contact the City's Corporate Communications department to inquire on pricing on the 10 x 20 tent with the Markham logo.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Markham Accessibility Audits 	<p>Committee discussed the 2019 Markham Fair Audit and suggested the following for future fairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Service Area: Where elevated and not accessible. Committee suggested having a service assistant to help order food, and a runner to bring food to tables; Eating Area: There were no accessible tables; Accessible washrooms: Committee suggested having an automatic door system for the accessible washrooms; Wheelchairs: The fair had non-powered wheelchairs. Committee suggested the fair provide power scooters; Bleachers: Some areas of the fair were surrounded by grass. Wheelchairs were unable to access these areas. This resulted in members not being able to see the field/track. The Committee suggested having an elevated gravel platform to help resolve this issue; 	<p>Cheryl sent an email to the Fair Committee staff. She will provide an update to the committee at the next Advisory on Accessibility committee meeting.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage: More signage with directions to washrooms are required; • Signage inside buildings: Place stickers on floor with directions to provide easier movement; • Have better maps; • Provide Animal Services; • Lighting: Improve and make sure lighting is working; • Communication Support: Enhance their communication to provide more information on accessibility. <p>Committee Members proposed committing one year to attending the Fair Committee meetings to assist with the accessibility portion of the Fair.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Business 	<p><u>Social Media</u> Barry Martin proposed having a Special Advisory Committee on Accessibility meeting on Monday November 4, 2019 to discuss educational material to promote on the City's social media platforms. Jewell suggested having the Committee brainstorm ideas for "Did you know" to display on the City of Markham's social media platforms. Cheryl advised she would contact Maxine Roy from the City's Corporate Communications Department to attend the November 4th meeting.</p> <p><u>Markham's Active Transportation Master Plan – Phase II</u> Markham's Active Transportation Master Plan – Phase II hosted a meeting on Monday October 28, 2019 at Markham Pan Am Centre. Committee members enquired on receiving more information from staff and requested for a member of the Markham's Active Transportation Master Plan – Phase II attend a future Advisory Committee on Accessibility meeting. Cheryl to obtain more information on this topic for Committee members.</p> <p><u>Future Meetings</u> Barry Martin requested Michael Killingsworth, Deputy Clerk, By-law Enforcement, Licensing and Regulatory Services attend a future meeting to provide an update on accessible private transportation (taxi, Uber, and limousine).</p>	<p>Cheryl to contact Maxine Roy from the City's Corporate Communications department to attend the November 4, 2019 meeting to discuss social media.</p> <p>Committee members to brainstorm ideas for "Did you know".</p> <p>Cheryl to obtain more information on the Markham's Active Transportation Master Plan – Phase II for Committee members.</p>

Item	Discussion	Action
	<u>Christmas Gather</u> Committee Members brainstormed ideas for the Committee's Christmas gathering.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adjournment	The Advisory Committee on Accessibility adjourned at 7:04 pm.	