

Advisory Committee on Accessibility

November 18, 2019

Canada Room

5:00 PM

Attendance:

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

Guest:

Kaitlyn Chow, Parks Canada and Regional Councillor Jack Heath

Regrets:

Robert Hunn, Vice Chair, Kaushi Ragunathan, Nahid Verma, and Elaine Vollett

Item	Discussion	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Call to Order	The Advisory Committee on Accessibility convened at 5:07 pm with Barry Martin presiding, as Chair.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parks Canada	<p>Kaitlyn Chow, Parks Canada was in attendance to discuss the Accessible Canada Act (the “Act”), which came into effect in July 2019. She provided the Committee with the future plans on making the Rouge National Park barrier free to meet the required legislation.</p> <p>Parks Canada is being proactive and is reaching out to different groups to learn best practices and to receive feedback on what they have learned in regards to making their parks barrier free. The ideas will then be incorporated into their new parks. In September, Parks Canada opened a barrier free park on the boarder of Markham and Stouffville.</p> <p>The Committee was requested to think of ideas to help make Parks Canada’s parks barrier free. The ideas should be be circulated to Park’s Canada. A future meeting can then be held with Park’s Canada to discuss the ideas.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social Media Platforms – Did You Know	<p>The Committee created the following Sub-Committee:</p> <p>1. Social Media Sub-Committee Members:</p> <p>Jewell Lofsky Laura Meffen Nahid Verma Barry Martin</p>	

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	The Sub-Committee will meet to discuss the Committee's ideas on the "Did You Know" social media package and the City of Markham Accessibility website.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Markham Accessibility Award 	<p>Committee members suggested the following for the 2020 Markham Accessibility Award preparation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a new platform; • Promote the Award at upcoming festivals; • Prepare information to provide to Councillors to send with their newsletters; • Create an information pamphlet; and, • Have the Awards Sub-Committee meet earlier. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Markham Accessibility Park 	<p>There was a brief discussion on the process for bringing forward the Advisory Committee on Accessibility's recommendation regarding making Markham's trail system accessible.</p> <p>It was suggested that the Committee invite Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community and Fire Services to a future Advisory Committee on Accessibility meeting to discuss the City's plans with respect to making Grandview Park Accessible.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Markham Accessibility Audits 	<p><u>Markham Fair Audit</u> Cheryl McConney-Wilson advised that information from the Markham Fair Audit was sent to Markham Fair. A representative from Markham Fair has been requested to attend a future Advisory Committee on Accessibility meeting to discuss the audit results. Cheryl will provide an update to the Committee when a response is received.</p> <p><u>Markham Civic Centre</u> The Committee agreed that its next audit will be of Markham Civic Centre. Committee members decided on the following timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 2020 – Committee members to compile information to prepare for the Audit. • February 2020 – Committee members do a walk through of the building. • March 2020 – Conduct Markham Civic Centre audit. 	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Business 	<p><u>Webinar</u> Barry Martin, Chair informed the Committee about a webinar being offered through the York Region Webinar Centre on accessibility public sector compliance reporting. Committee Members are required to register for the webinar. The webinar will assist with conducting the audits.</p> <p><u>York Region</u> Barry Martin provided an update on the York Region Accessibility Committee. York Region is proposing to bring all municipalities together to meet at the York Region Headquarters in 2020 to share ideas in regards to improving accessibility. Barry asked Members to attend the meeting when the date is set.</p> <p><u>Christmas Gathering</u> The Committee agreed to have a potluck Christmas gathering at the December 16, 2019 meeting. A sign up list will be sent to the committee members.</p> <p><u>Tent</u> Cheryl McConney-Wilson agreed to order the tent for events in February 2020.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjournment 	<p>The Advisory Committee on Accessibility adjourned at 6:35 pm.</p>	