

**Advisory Committee on Accessibility  
Minutes  
Monday, September 27, 2021  
Zoom  
5:00 PM**

**Attendance:**

Councillor Isa Lee  
Nahid Verma, Co-Chair  
Robert Hunn, Co-Chair  
Jewell Lofsky  
Kaushi Regunathan  
Mona Nazif, Senior Manager HR Client Services  
Mary-Jane Courchesne, Acting Council/Committee Coordinator

**Regrets:**

none

**Guests:**

**Diversity Institute - Ted Rogers School of Management, Ryerson University**

Wendy Cukier  
Mohamed Elmi  
Stefan Karajovic  
Nancy Mitchell

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Items
<b>1. Call to Order</b>	<p>The Advisory Committee on Accessibility convened at 5:05 PM with Nahid Verma in the Chair.</p> <p><u>Anticipation of the new Committee members:</u> Nahid Verma proposed providing the soon-to-be-appointed Committee members, a great welcome. Committee was asked if they would agree to spend some time engaging with each new member in order to get to know each other better. Connecting on a personal level was suggested.</p> <p>Jewell Lofsky recommended starting the new members' first meeting with a round table and perhaps asking everyone to express their motivation for wanting to join the Committee.</p>	

<b>2. Discovery Session for the update of the City's Diversity Action Plan</b>	<p>Mona Nazif, Senior Manager HR Client Services, provided the Committee with introductory comments and context regarding the session with the Diversity Institute:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Diversity Institute is the City's partner who will help update our Diversity Action Plan.</li><li>• The City's first Diversity Action Plan was launched in 2010 which looked at four communities: Seniors; Youth; Persons with Disabilities; and Newcomers/Visible Minorities.</li><li>• The updated Diversity Action Plan is intended to cover all communities and seeks to ensure that everyone feels a sense of belonging and inclusion in Markham and that they can live their best lives possible free from barriers, discrimination and racism.</li></ul> <p>Mona Nazif introduced the Diversity Institute lead, Wendy Cukier, of the Ted Rogers School of Management, Ryerson University. Wendy Cukier explained the purpose and process of the session which was to consult with Committee to determine what issues are important when updating the City's new 10-year Diversity Plan.</p> <p>Wendy facilitated the Discovery Session discussion with the Committee.</p>	
<b>3. Approval of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility Minutes and Review of Action Items</b>	<p><b>a) Approval of Minutes</b></p> <p>Moved by Jewell Lofsky Seconded by Robert Hunn</p> <p>That the Minutes of the June 21, 2021, Advisory Committee on Accessibility, be approved as presented.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Carried</b></p> <p><b>b) Review of Action Items</b></p> <p>Committee discussed the previous action items:</p> <p><u>Meet with Ms. Garza prior to the next meeting to discuss the document created by the Committee on the accessibility content on the City's website:</u></p>	

	<p>Nahid Verma advised that she met with Megan Garza, Manager, Organizational Transformation, Markham Public Library, over the summer to discuss the recommendations of the accessibility content on the City's website.</p> <p><u>Mona Nazif to send parking samples:</u> Mona indicated that three parking samples will be sent to the Committee.</p> <p><u>Councillor Isa Lee to ask about dedicating a tree or other park feature to honour Brian Lynch:</u> David Plant, Senior Manager, Parks, Horticulture &amp; Forestry, Operations has provided Councillor Isa Lee with some options.</p>	<p><b>Councillor Isa Lee to follow up with David Plant.</b></p>
<b>4. New Business</b>	<p><u>Social connection with new Committee members:</u> Nahid Verma emphasized the importance of connecting with the new members when they join. Jewell Lofsky pointed out that sub-committees are a great way for members to connect.</p> <p><u>Compliance of Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA):</u> Mona advised that the City has been working hard over the summer on an AODA compliance audit. The results of the audit will soon be available.</p>	<p><b>List of sub-committees that should be resurrected and shared with new Committee members.</b></p>
<b>5. Next Meeting Date</b>	<p>The next meeting of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility will be held on October 18, 2021.</p>	
<b>6. Adjournment</b>	<p>The Advisory Committee on Accessibility adjourned at 7:02 PM.</p>	