

Advisory Committee on Accessibility

February 17, 2016

Ontario Room

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Committee Members Present: Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong, Councillor Karen Rea, Brendan Faulkner, Co-Chair, Kristen Hayes, Co-Chair, Catherine Hughes, Robert Hunn, Brendan Faulkner, Brian Lynch, and Tammy Mok

Staff Present:

Cheryl McConney-Wilson, Senior Diversity Coordinator, and Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator

Regrets: Mona Nazif, Senior Manager of Human Resources and Client Service, Jaqueline Bell , Arlene Juanillo, and Keith Irish

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Call to Order	The Advisory Committee on Accessibility convened at 3:40 p.m. with Brendan Faulkner presiding as Chair.	
2. Approval of the Minutes	Moved by Kristen Hayes Seconded by Regional Councillor Armstrong That the November 18, 2016, Advisory Committee on Accessibility Minutes be approved as presented. Moved by Councillor Karen Rea Seconded by Regional Councillor Armstrong That the January 20, 2016, Advisory Committee on Accessibility Minutes be	Carried

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Item	Discussion	Action
	approved as presented.	Carried
3. Markham Board of Trade Award	Richard Cunningham, President of the Board of Trade was in attendance to speak about the Markham Board of Trade Accessibility Award. The Committee discussed the award criteria, and ways of obtaining more nominations. Some of the highlights of the discussion included: • Focusing on nominating businesses that go above and beyond legislative requirements to accommodate persons with a disability • Focusing on awarding businesses that employ persons with a disability • Asking schools if they have any organizations they would like to nominate • Creating awareness of disability issues through the award • Possibly focusing on small and medium businesses • Only nominating businesses that have agreed to be nominated. The Committee will email Richard any further suggestions.	Email additional suggestions to Richard - Committee
4. Accessibility Report Card	Cheryl McConney Wilson provided an update on the City's accessibility initiatives. The City's webpage on accessibility matters was displayed to the Committee. An overview of some of the initiatives the City has undertaken to date to improve accessibility was provided (e.g. Civic Centre enhancements).	

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	The Committee viewed a website created by a Ryerson student called “Access Now”. The website was created as a tool to find accessible places around the world. The data is based on information uploaded by users. The website has been featured in the media and it is being sponsored by various businesses, including TD. The Committee encouraged the City to promote the services it provides to persons with a disability. This was possibly something that the Committee could assist with. The Committee requested that this be added to the next agenda. The Committee inquired whether having Uber operating in Markham impacts the number of accessible cabs. It also questioned if there are will be standards that accessible Uber cabs must follow. Councillor Rea advised that staff are currently working on a report addressing Uber operating in Markham and advised that she will request that staff also look at the matter through an accessibility lens.	Add promotion of City accessible initiatives to the next agenda – Committee Clerk Ask staff to also look at accessible when report back to Council on the Uber issue – Christopher Alexander
5. New Business	<u>Membership Update</u> The Clerk advised that interviews to fill vacancies on the committee will be conducted soon. A Member questioned if the City provides babysitting to applicants wishing to apply. The Clerk advised she will look into this inquiry. <u>Collaborating with Other Committees</u> Kristen Hayes advised that she has been corresponding with the Chair of the Seniors Advisory Committee, and the Race Relations Committee. Both committees would like to collaborate with the Committee. The Committee had many	Look into question regarding babysitting - Laura

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	overlapping issues with the Seniors Advisory Committee. <u>York Region Advisory Committee on Accessibility</u> Bryan Lynch advised that he would provide an update from the York Region Advisory Committee on Accessibility at the next meeting.	
6. Next Meeting	The next meeting of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility will be held on Wednesday, March 16, 2016.	
7. Adjournment	The Advisory Committee on Accessibility adjourned at 5:35 p.m.	

Advisory Committee on Accessibility Action Items

No.	Action Item	Responsibility of Staff/Committee Member	Completion Date	Status
1.	Invite organizations representing different types of disabilities to present at future Advisory Committee on Accessibility Meetings	Senior Diversity Coordinator	On going	
2.	Include in the Site Plan for the gas station at Major Mackenzie and Don Cousens how it will provide accessible service.	David Miller	Spring 2016	
3.	Look into why an accessible parking spot was placed in front of the Church on Main Street Markham.	Cheryl McConney-Wilson, and Sally Campbell	Spring 2016	
4.	Look into providing a warning for first offences with respect to the expiry date of the accessible parking permit not being visible.	Christopher Alexander	Spring 2016	
5.	Email additional suggestions regarding the Accessible Board of Trade Award to Richard Cunningham.	Committee	March 16, 2016	
6.	Add the promotion of City accessible initiatives to the next agenda.	Laura Gold	March 16, 2016	
7.	Ask staff to also look at accessible when report back to Council on the Uber issue	Councillor Rea	March 16, 2016	

No.	Action Item	Responsibility of Staff/Committee Member	Completion Date	Status
8.	Look into question regarding providing babysitting for Committee Members.	Laura Gold	March 16, 2016	