

Advisory Committee on Accessibility

June 17, 2015

Canada Room

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Committee Members Present: Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong, Councillor Karen Rea, Sidney Polak, Chair, Catherine Hughes, Brian Lynch, Tammy Mok, Brendan Faulkner, and Jacqueline Bell

Staff Present:

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

Regrets: Mona Nazif, Senior Manager of Human Resources, Keith Irish, Robert Hunn, Kristen Hayes, Arlene Juanillo, and Joan Jenkyn

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Call to Order	The Advisory Committee on Accessibility convened at 3:35 p.m. with Sidney Polak presiding as Chair.	
2. Approval of the Minutes	There was a brief discussion on the improvements made to the Civic Centre parking lot. Moved by Jacqueline Bell Seconded by Councillor Karen Rea That the May 20, 2015 Advisory Committee on Accessibility Minutes be approved as presented.	CARRIED
3. Update on Accessible Parking	Christopher Alexander, Supervisor of Licensing & Animal Control was in attendance to answer the Committee's questions regarding accessible parking.	

Item	Discussion	Action
	<u>Enforcement of Accessible Parking Spots</u> The Committee wanted to ensure that there was enough enforcement with respect to the ticketing of vehicles illegally parked in accessible parking spots, especially at malls. In 2014, the City issued approximately 2,100 parking tickets for illegally parking in an accessible parking spot. At Markville Mall the enforcement of the accessible parking spots is undertaken by a private security company managed by the mall. The City could look into providing additional enforcement of the accessible parking spots at the mall. A concern was expressed that disabled persons with an accessible parking permit were being ticketed for parking in an accessible parking spot due to the expiry date on their permit not being visible to the by-law officer. Chris advised that these tickets were being issued in accordance with the City's by-law, which requires the expiry date of the accessible parking permit to be visible at all times when parking in an accessible parking spot. This provision is included in the by-law to ensure that people are not using expired accessible parking permits to park in accessible parking spots. Staff will look into issuing a warning for first time offences of this type. A similar practice is used to enforce overnight parking permits. <u>Accessible Parking Spot on Main Street Markham</u> The Committee requested that staff look into why an accessible parking spot was placed in front of the Church on Main Street Markham, as it had recommended that the spot be removed from the plans. Cheryl McConney-Wilson will follow up with Sally Campbell on this matter. <u>Underground Parking Lot at Civic Centre</u> A Committee Member asked if they would be able to park in the underground parking lot at Markham Civic Centre. It was advised this option was explored unsuccessfully in the past. It was not allowed because it is a secure parking spot with a limited number of assigned parking spots	Look into providing a warning for first time offences with respect to the expiry date of the accessible parking permit not being visible – Christopher Alexander Follow up with Sally Campbell regarding why there is an accessible parking spot in front of the Church on Main Street Markham – Cheryl McConney - Wilson

Item	Discussion	Action
	for Members of Council, and Senior Staff. The Committee Clerk was requested to circulate past meeting minutes on this matter to the Committee. <u>Accessible Parking Spot in New Developments</u> The Committee discussed issues with accessible parking spots in new developments and at medical clinic, like being far from the main entrance or not being wide enough. Another issue mentioned was building owners moving the location of the accessible parking spots several years after the building is built. The Committee wanted to ensure that the City is inspecting accessible parking spots in new development to ensure they are placed in accordance with the Site Plan Agreement for the property. Moved Brendan Faulkner Seconded by Tammy Mok That the Advisory Committee on Accessibility recommend that Council direct staff to inspect if accessible parking spots in new developments, and in developments built after 2005, meet the following criteria: (1) Are in compliance with the <i>Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act</i>, and with <i>Markham's Accessibility Design Guidelines</i>; and, (2) Are located closest to the main entrance of developments. CARRIED	Place recommendation to Council on General Committee Agenda - Laura
4. Discussion on the Election of the Chair	Sid Polak, Chair provided tips for the new Chair based on his experience in the role. An emphasis was placed on being proactive, especially with respect to following up on the status of action items. He believed that this would help the Committee be more effective in achieving its goals	

Advisory Committee on Accessibility

June 17, 2015

Page 4 of 6

Item	Discussion	Action
	and objectives. The Committee discussed the elections of the Chair and Vice-Chair to be held in September. It was agreed to elect an interim Chair until September. Moved by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong Seconded by Karen Councillor Rea That Brendan Faulkner be appointed as interim Chair until next Advisory Committee on Accessibility Meeting, scheduled to be held on September 16, 2015. CARRIED	
5. York Region Advisory Committee on Accessibility	Bryan Lynch reported that the next meeting of the York Region Advisory Committee on Accessibility will be held on Wednesday, June 24, 2015. An update from the meeting will be provided at the next meeting. He also advised that Mobility Plus will be doing a pilot project, which tests the use of the presco card for its services.	
6. New Business	<u>Board of Trade Nominations</u> Staff were extending the deadline for receiving nominations for the Markham Board of Trade Accessibility Award, as only two nominations were received to date. The Committee was encouraged to submit more nominations and to think outside of the box when making nominations. A suggestion was made to re-nominate past businesses that were nominated, but that did not win the award. It was requested that a list of past businesses that were nominated be circulated to the Committee.	

Advisory Committee on Accessibility

June 17, 2015

Page 5 of 6

Item	Discussion	Action
	<u>Ability Award</u> Tammy Mok advised that she will be nominating Sid Polak for the Ability Award this year for his role of Past Chair of the Markham Advisory Committee on Accessibility. Last year, Kristen Hayes won the award, and two years ago, Warren Rupnarain won the award. The Committee extended its sincere appreciation to Sid Polak for his years of service on the Advisory Committee on Accessibility, and for the leadership and dedication he brought to the Committee. Moved by Brendon Faulkner Seconded by Councillor Karen Rea That the Advisory Committee on Accessibility endorse the nomination of Sid Polak for the Ability Award. <u>Site Plan Review</u> Cheryl McConney-Wilson asked if any of the Committee Members would be available to review a site plan over the summer. The following Members volunteered: Councillor Karen Rea, Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong, Jaqueline Bell, and Brendon Faulkner.	Review site plan over the summer – Sid Polak
7. Next Meeting	The next meeting of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility will be held on Wednesday, September 16, 2015.	
8. Adjournment	The Advisory Committee on Accessibility adjourned at 5:12 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	Fall 2015	
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	September 16, 2015	
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	September 16, 2015	
5.	Place Committee's recommendation to Council regarding accessible parking spots on a future General Committee Agenda.	Laura Gold	Fall 2015	
6.	Review Site Plan over the summer.	Councillor Karen Rea, Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong, Jaqueline Bell, and Brendon Faulkner	September 16, 2015	