

Advisory Committee on Accessibility

March 19, 2014

Canada Room

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Committee Members Present: Councillor Valerie Burke, Councillor Don Hamilton, Councillor Alan Ho, Arlene Juanillo, Vice-Chair, Robert Hunn, Kristen Hayes, Brendan Faulkner, Keith Irish, Joan Jenkyn, Brian Lynch, Cindy Jones Shrek and Tammy Mok

Staff Present:

Warren Rupnarain, Accessibility Coordinator, Graham Seaman, Senior Manager of the Sustainability Office and Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator

Regrets: Sidney Polak

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Item
1. Call to Order	The Advisory Committee on Accessibility convened at 3:41 p.m. with Arlene Juanillo presiding as Chair.	
2. 2015 Pan Am Games Update	Mary Creighton, Director of Recreation provided a presentation on the 2015 Pan Am Games. The presentation included the following: • Background information about the Pan Am Games; • An overview of the Pan Am Sport Program and the Parapan Am Sport Program; • The site locations for the Games; • The features of the Markham Pan Am/Parapan Am Centre, highlighting the accessibility features of the facility; • The plans for the opening of the facility in 2014. The Committee wanted to ensure that the facility will be fully accessible and that the site lines have been considered in the plans for the accessible seating. Staff advised that Markham's Pan Am/Parapan Am Centre will exceed the accessibility requirements for the facility and that site lines were considered in the plans for the accessible seating. A copy of the presentation will be circulated to the Committee.	Circulate copy of presentation – Laura Gold

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Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Item
3. Approval of Minutes and Review of Action Items	A correction to the attendance was made. Moved by Tammy Mok Seconded by Councillor Don Hamilton That the Minutes of the February 19, 2014 Advisory Committee on Accessibility be approved as amended. CARRIED Follow up on action items: <u>Service Ontario</u> Warren Rupnarain contacted the Markham Service Ontario Office to inquire about its accessibility. He was told that the facility has no accessible door opener, but that it does have accessible washrooms. The lack of accessibility of the facility will be brought to the Province's attention. Warren will report back on this matter in May 2014.	Report back on the accessibility issues with the Service Ontario Offices – Warren Rupnarain
4. James Robinson Public School	Laura Meffen was in attendance to provide an update on the accessible play space at James Robinson Public School. Some of the highlights of the presentation included the following: • An updated landscape plan • The schools accomplishments since 2010 in regards to its accessible play space, which included the following: ○ A wheelchair accessible sensory garden ○ A accessible outdoor classroom ○ A accessible outdoor stage	

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Item
	○ A paved universal learning trail ○ A naturalized native shade garden ○ Curriculum based food gardens ○ Chain link fence mural art ○ A multi-exceptional summer camp program • An overview of future projects, and their proposed funding • Upcoming 2014 events • Recognition of sponsors It was requested that that the details of the May 22, 2014 James Robinson Fair & Outdoor Concert featuring Justin Hynes be circulated to the Committee. The Committee was impressed with all work that has been done to build an accessible play space at James Robinson Public School. A Member questioned if Markham residents are able to enjoy the accessible play space outside of school hours. It was advised that Markham residents have been enjoying the accessible play space outside of school hours (e.g. mothers with strollers and young kids learning to ride their bikes). A copy of the presentation will be circulated to the Committee. Moved by Brendon Faulkner	Provide more information on the school concert featuring Justin Hynes to the Committee – Warren Rupnarain Circulate copy of presentation

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	Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke That the presentation on the James Robinson Public School Accessible Play Space be received. CARRIED	to the Committee – Laura Gold
5. Accessible Taxicabs	Christopher Alexander, Supervisor of Licensing and Animal Control was in attendance to provide an update on the taxicab open house that was held to obtain feedback from the taxi industry on taxi related issues, including issues pertaining to accessible taxicabs. The industry demonstrated its concern that accessible taxicabs would not be financially viable for the taxicab operators. Staff are exploring innovative solutions for improving the financial viability of operating an accessible taxicab. For example reducing the licensing fee for accessible taxicabs or allowing the vehicles to be used for longer durations of time. It was noted that all new taxicabs licensed by the City of Toronto will be required to be a wheelchair accessible vehicle. The City of Toronto is looking at the feasibility of procuring Canadian made accessible taxicabs. A Member suggested that the City should work with both brokers and independent taxicab owners to reach its accessible taxicab goals. It was also suggested that the City partner with other municipalities when providing its accessible taxicab training. Moved by Councillor Alan Ho Seconded by Joan Jenkyn That the update on accessible taxicabs be received.	

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Item
	CARRIED	
6. Markham Board of Trade Accessibility Award	Warren Rupnarain presented a memo with options for the Accessibility Award: • Continue to run the Accessibility Award through the Markham Board of Trade; • Have the Committee create its own annual accessible business award; • Hold the accessible business award as part of an existing Markham program (e.g. have the award presented at a Special Council meeting or at the Achievement & Civic Recognition Awards Ceremony). The Committee reviewed the pros and cons for each option. It agreed to discontinue the Markham Board of Trade Accessibility Award for the following reasons: (1) the high cost of running the awards program through the Markham Board of Trade; and (2) to have more input in the selection of the award recipients. The Committee will discuss at its next meeting how and where it will hold its Accessibility Award ceremony. Moved by Councillor Don Hamilton	Discuss how and where the Accessibility Award will be held – All Committee Members

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	Seconded by Councillor Alan Ho That the Advisory Committee on Accessibility discontinue the Markham Board of Trade Accessibility Award and that other options for the presentation of the award be explored. CARRIED Note: At the April 16, 2014 Advisory Committee on Accessibility meeting, new information on the Markham Board of Trade Accessibility Award was presented to the committee, consequently, the discussion on the award was reopened. The committee will now continue to run the Accessibility Award through the Markham Board of Trade. The Committee viewed a video of the Achievement & Civic Recognition Awards Ceremony. Graham Seaman and Warren Rupnarain will meet with Regional Councillor Gordon Landon to discuss the option of having the Accessibility Award incorporated into the Achievement & Civic Recognition Awards Ceremony and will report back at the next meeting. The Sub-Committee will start to meet to discuss the Accessibility Fair. Sub-Committee Members will be surveyed regarding the meeting format.	Meet with Regional Councillor Landon to discuss the possibly of incorporating the Accessibility Award into the Achievement & Civic Recognition Awards – Graham Seaman and Warren Rupnarain Meet with Regional Councillor Landon to discuss the possibly incorporating the Accessibility Award into ACRA – Graham Seaman Survey Sub-Committee Members regarding how they would like to meet – Warren Rupnarain

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7. Sub-Committee Reports	A. Site Plan Sub-Committee No update was provided. B. Promotions Sub-Committee No update was provided. C. Accessibility Recreation Sub-Committee No update was provided D. Accessibility Outreach Sub-Committee No update was provided.	
8. Next Meeting Date	The next meeting of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility will be held on April 16, 2014 in the Canada Room.	
9. Adjournment	The Advisory Committee on Accessibility adjourned at 5:32 p.m.	

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Advisory Committee on Accessibility Action Items

No.	Action Item	Responsibility of Staff/Committee Member	Completion Date	Status
1.	Engagement with Markham's BIA's	Warren Rupnarain	On going	
2.	Invite organizations representing different types of disabilities to present at future Advisory Committee on Accessibility Meetings	Warren Rupnarain	On going	
3.	Include in the Site Plan for the gas station at Major Mackenzie and Don Cousens how it will provide accessible service.	David Miller	Spring 2014	
4.	Contact the Provincial Liaison regarding the Committee's concern that Markham's Service Ontario Offices are not accessible and invite them to come to a future meeting to address this concern	Warren Rupnarain	May 2014	
5.	Bring Committee's accessibility concerns regarding Markville Mall to the malls attention	Councillor Don Hamilton	April 2014	
6.	Invite Regional Councillor Landon to the next meeting to discuss the Committee's transportation concerns	Laura Gold	April 2014	
7.	Find out if Councillors are permitted to Chair Advisory/Statutory Committees of Council	Laura Gold	April 2014	
8.	Meet with Regional Councillor Landon to discuss the possibly of incorporating the Accessibility Award into the Achievement & Civic	Warren Rupnarain	April 2014	

No.	Action Item	Responsibility of Staff/Committee Member	Completion Date	Status
	Recognition Awards	and Graham Seaman		
9.	Survey Sub-Committee Members regarding how they would like to meet to undertake the planning and execution of the Accessibility Award.	Warren Rupnarain	April 2014	
10.	Circulate copies of the presentation presented at the March 19, 2014 meeting.	Laura Gold	April 2014	Completed
11.	Decide how and where to run the 2014 Accessibility Award.	All Committee Members	April 2014	
12.	Provide more information on the school concert featuring Justin Hynes to the Committee.	Warren Rupnarain	April 2014	