

Advisory Committee on Accessibility

October 16, 2013

Canada Room

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Committee Members Present: Councillor Valerie Burke, Councillor Don Hamilton, Councillor Alan Ho, Robert Hunn, Vice-Chair, Kristen Hayes, Arlene Juanillo, Tammy Mok and Brian Lynch

Staff Present:

Warren Rupnarain, Accessibility Coordinator, Graham Seaman, Senior Manager of the Sustainability Office, Stephen Corr, Planner, David Miller, Manager of Development East, John Owen, Consultant and Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator

Regrets: Sidney Polak, Chair, Joan Jenkyn and Cindy Jones Shrek

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Item
1. Call to Order	The Advisory Committee on Accessibility convened at 3:37 p.m. with Robert Hunn presiding as Chair.	
2. Update on Gas Station	John Owen, Consultant, David Miller and Stephen Corr, Planning Staff provided an update on the accessibility of the gas station being built at Major Mackenzie and Don Cousens Parkway. The gas station will have two operators so that assistance can be provided at anytime. Persons requiring assistance will need to use the pump closest to the payment area. There will be button that the person can press to request assistance. It was questioned what type of gas station this will be. This is still to be determined, as it will depend on who purchases the gas station. The Committee requested that it be documented in the site plan how the accessibility concerns will be addressed. This model could be used to ensure future gas stations in Markham are accessible. It was questioned if a by-law could be passed requiring full service gas stations in Markham. Staff advised that this is currently not permitted under the <i>Planning Act</i>.	

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	Moved by Councillor Don Hamilton Seconded by Brian Lynch That staff include in the Site Plan Agreement for the gas station at Major Mackenzie and Donald Cousens, how the gas station will provide accessible service. CARRIED	Include in Site Plan for gas station how it will provide accessible service - David Miller
3. Approval of Minutes and Review of Action Items	Moved by Councillor Don Hamilton Seconded by Councillor Arlene Juanillo That the Minutes of the June 19, 2013 Advisory Committee on Accessibility be approved as presented. CARRIED <u>Review of Action Items</u> The Committee reviewed and updated the list of action items. The following update was provided: - Any accessibility concerns regarding City owned heritage properties can be brought to the attention of the Accessibility Coordinator; - An update will be provided on engaging Markham's Business Improvement Areas on benefits of businesses improving their accessibility; - The Hilton Conference Centre is looking into the Committee's concerns regarding the accessibility of its washrooms on the ground floor.	
4. Markham Board of Trade Award	The Accessibility Coordinator provided an update on the Board of Trade Accessibility Award. The three nominees for the award were reported. The winner will be announced at the award ceremony in November. The Committee discussed whether it should continue providing this award	

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	through the Board of Trade. There following suggestions were made: • Consider making the accessibility award an award category of the Achievement and Civic Recognition Awards; • Consider having the committee judge the nominations for the accessibility award and having the award presented at a Council Recognition meeting. The Committee will decide whether it will proceed with the Board of Trade Accessibility Award after the presentation of the award in November. One of the key challenges pertaining to the Accessibility Award is the generation of nominations. The Committee will need to think of how it can improve the awareness of the award on a go forward basis.	
5. Inclusiveness Play Space Policy	The Accessibility Coordinator reported that an Inclusiveness Play Space Policy is being created to ensure that play spaces are accessible. This policy was created based on recommendations from the Integrated Leisure Plan and the Green Print. The most recent draft of the policy will be sent out to the Committee for its feedback. The Committee provided the following feedback on the Markham Accessibility Fair held on September 7, 2013: • Try to have the demonstration closer to the exhibitors ; • Look at having accessible sports that can be offered in the same room as the exhibitors; • Try to increase the attendance at the event by improving the awareness of the event. The Committee thought that the event generally went well and would consider hosting a 2014 fair. The Accessibility Coordinator thanked Members of the Committee for their hard work in the planning and undertaking of the event.	
6. Markham Accessibility Fair	The Accessibility Coordinator reported that an Inclusiveness Play Space Policy is being created to ensure that play spaces are accessible. This policy was created based on recommendations from the Integrated Leisure Plan and the Green Print. The most recent draft of the policy will be sent out to the Committee for its feedback. The Committee provided the following feedback on the Markham Accessibility Fair held on September 7, 2013: • Try to have the demonstration closer to the exhibitors ; • Look at having accessible sports that can be offered in the same room as the exhibitors; • Try to increase the attendance at the event by improving the awareness of the event. The Committee thought that the event generally went well and would consider hosting a 2014 fair. The Accessibility Coordinator thanked Members of the Committee for their hard work in the planning and undertaking of the event.	

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7. New Business	The Committee suggested inviting organizations representing different types of accessibility challenges to come to future Advisory Committee on Accessibility meetings to learn about the accessibility challenges being experienced by persons with different types of disabilities. Tammy Mok suggested that the Committee visit the Abilities Centre in Whitby and that the Mayor be invited to the tour. The Committee liked this suggestion and requested Tammy to arrange the tour.	Invite organizations representing different types of disabilities to present at future Advisory Committee on Accessibility Meetings – Warren Rupnarain Organize tour of Abilities Centre in Whitby – Tammy Mok
8. Next Meeting Date	The next meeting of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility will be held on November 20, 2013 in the Canada Room.	
9. Adjournment	The Advisory Committee on Accessibility adjourned at 4:59 p.m.	

Advisory Committee on Accessibility Action Items

No.	Action Item	Responsibility of Staff/Committee Member	Completion Date	Status
1.	Decide whether the Committee will support a 2014 Accessible Board of Trade Award	All Committee Members	November 2013	
2.	Engagement with Markham's BIA's	Warren Rupnarain	On going	
3.	Invite organizations representing different types of disabilities to present at future Advisory Committee on Accessibility Meetings	Warren Rupnarain	On going	
4.	Include in the Site Plan for gas station at Major Mackenzie and Don Cousens how it will provide accessible service	David Miller	November 2013	
5.	Organize tour of Abilities Centre in Whitby	Tammy Mok	November 2013	completed