

Advisory Committee on Accessibility

March 20, 2013

Canada Room

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Committee Members Present: Councillor Valerie Burke, Councillor Don Hamilton, Councillor Alan Ho, Sidney Polak, Chair , Robert Hunn, Vice-Chair, Kristen Hayes, Joan Jenkyn, Arlene Juanillo, Brian Lynch and Cindy Jones Shrek
Staff Present: Christopher Alexander, Supervisor of Licensing and Animal Services, Warren Rupnarain, Accessibility Coordinator, Graham Seaman, Senior Manager of the Sustainability Office and Laura Gold, Committee Clerk
Regrets: None

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Item
1. CALL TO ORDER	The Advisory Committee on Accessibility convened at 3:32 p.m. with Sidney Polak presiding as Chair.	
2. STATIONARY BUSNISS LICENSING BY-LAW UPDATE	Mr. Chris Alexander, Supervisor of Licensing and Animal Services, was in attendance to provide an update on the proposed amendments to the Stationary Business Licensing By-Law. The proposed amendments to the by-law add provisions that prohibit businesses from refusing to serve a person with a disability; a person with a disability with a service dog; or a person of race, colour or creed. The Committee recommended that the Race Relations Committee review the proposed provision to the by-law regarding prohibiting businesses from refusing to serve a person of race, colour or creed. The Committee discussed the following: • Whether the by-law will apply to comfort dogs; • Whether a provision should be added regarding support persons; • Defining disability in the by-law.	
3. ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPOTS AT MARKVILLE MALL	Chris Alexander reported that staff will address the Committee's concerns with respect to the lack of enforcement of the accessible parking spots at Markville mall with the parking enforcement company authorized to issue parking tickets at the property.	
4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES AND MATTERS	Joan Jenkyn requested that the date of the next Recreation Advisory Committee be changed from March 6 to April 10 in the February 20, 2013 Advisory Committee on Accessibility Minutes.	

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ARISING THERE FROM	Moved by Councillor Don Hamilton Seconded by Brian Lynch That the February 20, 2013 Advisory Committee on Accessibility Minutes be approved as amended. CARREID <u>Review of Action Items</u> The Committee reviewed and updated the list of action items.	
5. DISCUSSION ON NATIONAL ACCESS WEEK	The Committee discussed the 2013 National Access Week event. The following was discussed: • Increasing the number of people who attend the event; • Whether exhibitors from last year should be invited to participate in this year's event; • The date and timing of the event; • The promotion of the event; • The format and theme of the event; • The budget for the event; • Outreach to other organizations regarding the event; • Partnering with other organizations in the planning and undertaking of the event; • Committee Members being more involved with the organization of the event; • Adding a family/kids focus to the event; • Engaging friends and families to come to the event; • Getting abled bodies to participate in the event; • Adding a competition element to the event.	

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	The following Committee Members agreed to be on the Accessibility Fair Sub-Committee: Robert Hunn Jacqueline Bell Warren Rupnarain Cindy Jones Shrek Joan Jenkyn Sydney Polak Arlene Juanillo Warren Rupnarain was requested to coordinate a meeting for the Accessibility Fair Sub-Committee.	Coordinate a Accessibility Fair Sub-Committee meeting- Warren Rupnarain
6. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS	a. Site Plan Sub-Committee No report was provided. b. Promotions Sub-Committee No report was provided. c. Recreation Sub-Committee Warren Rupnarain reported that a York Region committee that focuses on accessible recreational programs will be merging with the Recreation Sub-Committee. The committees share similar mandates and should complement each other.	

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7. OTHER BUSINESS	<u>Correspondence</u> The following Correspondence was discussed: 1) A letter from Robert Hunn regarding performing accessibility audits of businesses The committee thought that performing accessibility audits of businesses may be part of it longer term goals. The current goal is to educate the public on the benefits of making their businesses accessible. However, it was suggested that accessibility audits could possibly be done in 2014 as part of a pilot project if a budget for this initiative is approved through the 2014 budget approval process. 2) A York Region presentation entitled “2013 Special Olympics Ontario Summer Games” Members were encouraged to volunteer to support the 2013 Special Olympics Ontario Summer Games. It was noted that the volunteer deadline is April 1, 2013 at that the track and field event will be held in Markham. 3) A MV-1 Canada presentation entitled “New Technology in Accessible Transit This presentation was provided for information purposes. 4) Outreach to Organization Joan Jenkyn provided a list of organization that this committee could outreach to regarding committee initiatives.	Possibly place a budget request for a pilot project, which would entail conducting accessibility audits of businesses - Graham Seaman

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Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Item
	<u>Board of Trade Award</u> The Committee discussed whether it should continue to support the Accessible Board of Trade Award at a cost of \$6 K per annum. The cost includes a program ad, a table of ten at the Board of Trade Gala and acknowledgement of the winner. Members explored the idea of running the accessibility awards program through this committee. This would allow the committee to be more involved in the selection of the award recipient. Any decision that is made regarding the awards program will be for the 2014 award, as the City has already made a commitment to supporting the 2013 Accessible Board of Trade Award. The Committee would like to see more small businesses being awarded with the award rather than larger organization like Markham Stouville Hospital, which would be expected to be accessible. The Red Lobster on Yonge street was recognized for its recent renovation, which included accessibility retrofitting of the facility. This is the type of business this committee would like the accessibility award to be rewarded to.	Decide whether the Committee will support a 2014 Accessible Board of Trade Award – All Committee Members
8. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING	April 17, 2013, 3:30 p.m. Canada Room.	
9. ADJOURNMENT	The Advisory Committee on Accessibility adjourned at 5:24 p.m.	

Advisory Committee on Accessibility Action Items

No.	Action Item	Responsibility of Staff/Committee Member	Completion Date	Status
1.	Invite Regan to a future Advisory Committee on Accessibility Committee meeting so that the Committee can decide its next steps with respect to the retrofitting of heritage properties	All Committee Members	April 2013	Under Review
2.	Meet with Communications/Diversity to discuss including persons with a disability in City publications (e.g. using pictures of people in wheelchairs and using language that is inclusive of persons with a disability)	Graham Seaman, Warren Rupnarain	April 2013	
3.	Coordinate an Accessibility Fair Sub-Committee Meeting		April 2013	
4.	Possibly place a budget request for a pilot project, which would entail conducting accessibility audits of businesses	Graham Seaman	Spring/Summer 2013	
5.	Decide whether the Committee will support a 2014 Accessible Board of Trade Award		September 2013	