

Advisory Committee on Accessibility

June 20, 2012

Committee Room 4

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, Joan Jenkyn, Cindy Jones Shrek , Arlene Juanillo, Brian Lynch, and Margit Swift

Staff Present:

Christopher Alexander, Supervisor of Licensing & Animal Services, Warren Rupnarain, Accessibility Coordinator, Graham Seaman, Sustainability Office Lead & Manager of Climate Change & Energy, John Van Hezewyk, and Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator

Regrets:

Kristen Hayes

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Item
1. Call to Order	The Advisory Committee on Accessibility convened at 3:33 p.m. with Sidney Polak presiding as Chair. It was reported that due to Warren Rupnarain, Accessibility Coordinator, now being apart of the Sustainability Office, Graham Seaman, Sustainability Office Lead & Manager of Climate Change & Energy, will now attend meetings in replacement of Don Taylor.	
2. Presentation on Markham's Taxi Cab Structure and the Taxi Script Program	Christopher Alexander, Supervisor of Licensing & Animal Services, provided an overview of taxi structure in Markham. A copy of the presentation was circulated to the Committee. The Committee was invited to attend an open house on taxi cab issues in Markham. The open house will include a presentation and an open discussion. The open house is being held on two dates to encourage as many stakeholders as possible to attend (see dates below). This Committee was invited to attend on either of these dates. <u>Taxi Cab Open House Dates</u> • July 24, 2012 (1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m. - Canada Room) • August 2, 2012 (1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.- Canada Room) • It was confirmed that Christopher Alexander will have a booth at the National Awareness Fair. Feedback on Markham's options for accessible taxi cabs will be gathered from patrons at this time.	Attend a taxi open house – All Committee Members

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3. Approval of the Minutes and Matters Arising There From	The May 16, 2012 minutes were corrected to reflect Graham Seaman as in attendance at the meeting. Moved by Joan Jenkyn Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke That the Minutes from the May 16, 2012 Advisory Committee on Accessibility be adopted as amended. CARRIED.											
4. National Awareness Week Update	Warren Rupnarain provided an update on the National Awareness Week event. It was reported that the following organizations have confirmed their participation in the fair: • Canadian Hearing Society • Investors Group Financial Services Inc. • Link Up Employment Services • MEDIchair • MED Plus Home Health Care • Ontario Society of Occupational Therapists • York Region Support Services Network The order of events will be as follows: <table><tr><th>Time</th><th>Activity</th></tr><tr><td>12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.</td><td>Barbeque</td></tr><tr><td>12:30 p.m.</td><td>Official Opening Remarks • includes a presentation from a representative from the James Robinson Public School • Councillor Don Hamilton will speak on behalf of the Mayor </td></tr><tr><td>12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.</td><td>Accessible Tai Chi Demonstration</td></tr><tr><td>4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.</td><td>Accessible Ball Room Dancing Demonstration</td></tr></table>	Time	Activity	12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Barbeque	12:30 p.m.	Official Opening Remarks • includes a presentation from a representative from the James Robinson Public School • Councillor Don Hamilton will speak on behalf of the Mayor	12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Accessible Tai Chi Demonstration	4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Accessible Ball Room Dancing Demonstration	
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	It was reported that all proceeds from the barbeque will go towards the development of the James Robinson Public School accessible EcoSchoolyard and that sign language interpretation will be provided during the opening remarks. The Committee was advised that the Sustainability Coordinator will be manning the Town booth. Committee Members were requested to take turns manning the Advisory Committee on Accessibility booth. Warren Rupnarain was requested to send an email to the Committee with the event details and to coordinate the shifts for the Advisory Committee on Accessibility booth. It was reported that information has been put on the website and an ad was placed in the <u>Markham Economist & Sun</u> this Saturday promoting the National Awareness week event. A suggestion was made to acknowledge the businesses that won last year's Markham Board of Trade Accessibility award. The Committee requested that a poster/information sheet be created with information about the past award winners and that the winners be invited to the fair. Staff will investigate this possibility. The Committee agreed that inviting the past award winners to the fair would meet the same objective as inviting them to an Advisory Committee on Accessibility meeting. Consequently, the action item on this matter was requested to be removed from the list of outstanding action items.	Sign up to man the Advisory Committee on Accessibility Committee booth at the National Awareness Fair – All Committee Members Send email to the Committee with the event details and to coordinate the shifts for the National Awareness Week– Warren Rupnarain Investigate creating a poster/information sheet with information about the past winners of the Markham Board of Trade Accessibility Award and invite the winners to the fair - Staff Remove the action item regarding inviting the Markham Board of Trade Accessibility Award Winners to a Committee meeting – Laura Gold

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5. Discussion of Markham Mobility Partnership	Warren Rupnarain spoke about a potential pilot project with this Committee and Markham Mobility. The project involved this Committee reviewing funding requests from residents/local organizations with accessibility needs (e.g. providing funds to a resident with a financial need to obtain a wheelchair). This Committee would then pass the information on to Markham Mobility who would make all final decision with respect to the allocation of funds. The Committee thought that this was a great idea, but noted that guidelines/criteria will need to be put in place. A Member suggested asking the Kiwanis Club for the guidelines/criteria it uses when allocating funds to children with development needs.	Ask the Kiwanis Club for suggestions on criteria for allocating funds to residents/organizations in need of funds for accessibility purposes – Warren Rupnarain and Margit Swift
6. Other Business	A. <u>New Minute Format</u> The Committee Clerk recommended a new format for the meeting minutes. The new format was suggested to help the Committee keep track of its action items. The Committee agreed to the new minute format, but requested that the action items be numbered. Graham Seaman requested that the Committee pass a motion when it is requesting staff to undertake work, as staff work is directed by Council. B. <u>Committee Focus – Fall 2012</u> It was thought that the new minute format will help keep the Committee focused. C. <u>Recreation Sub-Committee</u> The Recreation Sub-Committee was recognized as an official sub-committee at the April Advisory Committee on Accessibility Committee meeting. Joan Jenkyn and Jacqueline Bell will represent the Committee on this Sub-Committee.	Provide regular update from the Recreation Sub-Committee – Joan Jenkyn
7. Date of the Next Meeting	July 18, 2012, 5:30 p.m., Ontario Room	
8. Adjournment	The Advisory Committee on Accessibility adjourned at 5:09 p.m.	

Advisory Committee on Accessibility Action Items

No.	Action Item	Responsibility of Staff/Committee Member	Completion Date	Status
1.	Barriers Subcommittee			
2.	Provide an update on the new development on Highway 48, south of Major Mackenzie Drive, as the Developer has agreed to implement the Committee's suggestion regarding its accessibility concerns	Warren Rupnarain	September 2012	Underway
3.	Lack of accessible parking on Main Streets in Unionville and Markham.			
4.	Present the benefits of having accessible businesses to the UBIA and MVBIA	Sidney Polak	September 2012	
5.	Heritage/Accessibility			
6.	Committee to decide its next steps with respect to the retrofitting of heritage properties	All Committee Members	September 2012	
7.	Other			
8.	Investigate standards for super mailboxes in Markham	Kimberley Dunsmoor	September 2012	Completed
9.	Investigate having door-to-door mail service for persons with a disability in Markham	Warren Rupnarain	September 2012	Completed
10.	Decide what the Committee next steps are with respect to accessibility retrofitting of heritage properties	All Committee Members	September 2012	
11.	Investigate the model banks are using to locate their accessible parking spots	Warren Rupnarain	September 2012	Underway
12.	Invite a representative from Markville mall to discuss parking issues at Markville Mall	Warren Rupnarain	September 2012	Deferred to October 2012
13.	Write a letter to the (3) medical clinic owners with no or poorly placed accessible parking with a disclaimer	Warren Rupnarain	September 2012	Underway
14.	Attend a taxi open house	All Committee Members	September 2012	Completed
15.	Sign up to man the Advisory Committee on Accessibility Committee booth at the National Awareness Fair	All Committee Members	June 2012	Completed
16.	Send email to the Committee with the event details and to coordinate the shifts for the National Awareness Week	Warren Rupnarain	June 2012	Completed

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No.	Action Item	Responsibility of Staff/Committee Member	Completion Date	Status
17.	Investigate creating a poster/information sheet with information about the past winners of the Markham Board of Trade Accessibility Award and invite the winners to the fair	Warren Rupnarain	June 2012	Completed
18.	Remove the action item regarding inviting the Markham Board of Trade Accessibility Award Winners to a Committee meeting	Laura Gold	September 2012	Completed
19.	Ask the Kiwanis Club for suggestions on criteria for allocating funds to residents/organizations in need of funds for accessibility purposes	Warren Rupnarain and Margit Swift	September 2012	Underway
20.	Provide regular update from the Recreation Sub-Committee	Joan Jenkyn and Jacqueline Bell	Continuous	Underway