

Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 13, 2021 @ 2:30 PM

Zoom meeting

Minutes

Present: Councillor Vicki Amirault
Wayne Huskins
Tyler Roy
Elise Johnston, Accessibility Coordinator, Region of Queens
Mike MacLeod, Director of Planning and Development, Region of
Queens

Regrets: Councillor Ralph Gidney, Chairperson
Kelly Oxner

1.0 Call to Order

By Elise at 2:38 pm

2.0 Changes/Approval Of Agenda

It was moved by Vicki and seconded by Wayne that the Agenda be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

3.0 Approval Of Minutes of April 8th, 2021

It was moved by Tyler and seconded by Wayne that the Minutes be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

4.0 Presentations: None.

5.0 Planning:

5.1 Getting the Municipal Accessibility Plan out to the public.

- Following the presentation to Council and their approval to make public the plan for 45 days, notices and links went on the main website and Facebook, although not everybody looks at these.
- Elise was slow to share it as she had wanted to add the video/audio of the meeting, but the captions hadn't come up yet. Meanwhile Wayne notes that he couldn't control the volume on the YouTube with his JAWS and would do better with a pure audio

file. Tyler offered to convert and send to him. Elise is curious to investigate accessibility on YouTube.

- Exposure to the plan may arise from an interview that Kevin McBain had with Mayor Norman. It was expected on Lighthouse Now, but was posted on the Toronto Star site.
- Everyone shared good ideas about distribution including the printing of hardcopies for the library and QCT, also flyers in public places the way the survey was promoted. Perhaps grocery stores would hold a few at service desk? Of course the lockdown slows the process and we can consider asking Council for an extension of publicity time if needed.

6.0 REPORTS/UPDATES

6.1 The Community Health Board Wellness sessions are delayed of course. All venues, instructors and interested parties have been put on hold until we can move forward. Elise noted frustration as this would have helped to create community and ways of sharing information, but knows it will come.

6.2 The provincial grant for some improvements at the Astor and Beach Meadows was submitted but will take some time in hearing back. Meanwhile Council's approved \$100,000 budget for the Astor will be used.

Vicki said she's getting many complaints about the sand on the ramps at Beach Meadows and passing it on to Adam Grant, Engineering. Sand barriers were discussed and possibly other types of fencing. Elise proposes that meanwhile, for those who can't walk on the sand, they may wish to use other boardwalks that end in platforms rather than ramps. We always look for options.

6.3 Elise has spent much of her time working from home on making online forms accessible (with some frustration regarding glitches in programs – that Wayne understands). It is a work in progress and as a service provider, we will always try to offer alternatives if one format isn't accessible.

6.4 We still have up to seats open for this committee. Elise reached out to some previous applicants: Carla Malay is retired whereas Debbie Wamboldt is still interested. MacKenzie Colp is still unsure, and Elise was hoping that the

Wellness sessions might get her feeling more involved and comfortable. Wayne mentioned a young woman, Jada Keddy, who he'd heard about when Susan MacLeod interviewed her on the radio. Elise will reach out to her.

7.0 **Adjournment** at 3:16 pm. Next meeting set for Thursday, June 3rd, 2:30 pm by Zoom.

8.0 **To Do:**

Tyler will send Wayne an audio.

Elise will contact Jada regarding the committee.