



Hamilton

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH
DISABILITIES
MINUTES 20-004**

4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

**Due to COVID-19 and the Closure of City Hall,
this meeting was held virtually.**

Present: A. Mallet (Chair), P. Kilburn (Vice-Chair), S. Aaron,
P. Cameron, J. Cardno, M. Dent, L. Dingman,
A. Frisina, S. Geffros, J. Kemp, T. Manzuk,
C. McBride, M. McNeil, K. Nolan, T. Nolan and
M. Sinclair

Absent

with regrets: T. Murphy and A. Wilson

Also Present: J. Bowen, Supervisor, Diversity and Inclusion

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO THE
GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION:**

1. DARTS Eligibility Audit (Item 8.4)

(T. Nolan/Aaron)

WHEREAS, the City Auditor General was directed to
complete an eligibility audit of clients registered for the

Disabled and Aged Regional Transportation Service (DARTS) and report back to the Public Works Committee (Item (i)(iii) of Public Works Committee Report 19-016);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Public Works Committee be requested to forward the City Auditor General's report respecting an eligibility audit of clients registered for the Disabled and Aged Regional Transportation Service (DARTS) to the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities for review and comment.

CARRIED

**2. Gage Park Wheelchair Swing Ribbon Cutting Event
(Added Item 11.5)**

(McNeil/Cardno)

That Aznive Mallett, Chair of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities, be approved to represent and speak on behalf of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities at the Gage Park Wheelchair Swing Ribbon Cutting Event on September 19, 2020.

CARRIED

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Committee Clerk advised of the following change to the agenda:

11. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS

11.5 Gage Park Wheelchair Swing Ribbon Cutting Event

CHANGES TO THE ORDER OF ITEMS:

That the following items be moved up on the agenda to be considered immediately following the Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

- 7.1 Parking Master Plan
- 7.2 Regulation of E-scooters in Hamilton
- 8.1 Sidewalk Snow Clearing Survey

(Cameron/Dingman)

That the agenda for the September 8, 2020 meeting of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Item 3)

(i) March 10, 2020 (Item 3.1)

(McNeil/Cardno)

That the minutes of the March 10, 2020 meeting of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities, be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

(d) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 6)

(i) Built Environment Working Group Update (Item 6.1)

No update.

(ii) Housing Issues Working Group Update (Item 6.2)

No update.

(iii) Outreach Working Group Update (Item 6.3)

No update.

(iv) Transportation Working Group Update (Item 6.4)

No update.

**(a) Ban of Electric Scooters from Public Property
(Item 6.4(a))**

(McNeil/Cameron)

That the following motion respecting the Ban of Electric Scooters from Public Property, be referred back to the Transportation Working Group for further discussion:

WHEREAS, other Canadian cities such as Montreal and Toronto have implemented a ban on the use of electric scooters in their communities;

WHEREAS, the province of Ontario has permitted Ontario cities to self-determine

whether to permit electric scooters on its roads and sidewalks;

WHEREAS, there are no regulations in place regarding the use of electric scooters on roads and sidewalks apart from an age limit of 16 years to operate;

WHEREAS, electric scooters can run at a speed of close to, or in excess of, 30km / hour posing a significant safety risk to persons with disabilities particularly those with mobility or sensory disabilities;

WHEREAS, operators of electric scooters are not required to possess either a license or insurance to operate;

WHEREAS, operators of electric scooters are not required to undertake any specific or regulated training in order to own or operate an electric scooter; and,

WHEREAS, other disability advisory committees in the province of Ontario have recommended a ban on the use of electric scooters on municipal sidewalks and roadways because of their risk to safety of others;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities for the City of Hamilton respectfully recommends that City Council

ban the use of electric scooters on all City roads, sidewalks, pathways and in all other areas of the City until such time that electric scooters are fully and completely regulated and their operators properly trained, licensed and insured in the same manner as any other motor vehicle in the province of Ontario.

CARRIED

(e) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 7)

(i) Parking Master Plan (Item 7.1)

Brian Hollingworth, Director, Transportation Planning and Parking, and Amanda McIlveen, Manager, Parking Operations and Initiatives, addressed Committee respecting the Parking Master Plan, with the aid of a presentation.

(McNeil/Kilburn)

That the presentation, respecting the Parking Master Plan, be received.

CARRIED

(ii) Regulation of E-scooters in Hamilton (Item 7.2)

Brian Hollingworth, Director, Transportation Planning and Parking, addressed Committee respecting the Regulation of E-scooters in Hamilton, with the aid of a presentation.

(McNeil/Geffros)

That the presentation, respecting the Regulation of E-scooters in Hamilton, be received.

CARRIED

(f) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 8)

(i) Sidewalk Snow Clearing Survey (Item 8.1)

Bob Paul, Manager, Roadway Maintenance, and Stephen Gagne, Senior Project Manager, Continuous Improvement, provided an overview of the City of Hamilton's online Sidewalk Snow Clearing Survey and answered questions of Committee.

(Kilburn/Sinclair)

That the discussion respecting the Sidewalk Snow Clearing Survey, be received.

CARRIED

(ii) Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (Item 8.2)

Jessica Bowen, Supervisor, Diversity and Inclusion, addressed the Committee respecting the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan.

Jessica noted that this is an update on the previous version of the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, with the primary difference being that this update includes the Design of Public Spaces Standard of the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005*.

(Sinclair/Dingman)

That Item 8.2, respecting the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, be deferred to the October 13, 2020 Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities meeting due to time constraints.

CARRIED

(iii) COVID-19 and Persons with Disabilities (Item 8.3)

Committee members discussed the challenges and barriers faced by persons with disabilities in the City of Hamilton during the pandemic, including, but not limited to the following:

- lack of communication and unsatisfactory service adjustments related to accessible transit
- floor decals and signage related to physical distancing requirements are not user-friendly for persons with disabilities, in that they are not uniform in design and do not contain any tactile walking surface indicators
- no information or regulations were put forth to recommend physical distancing measures for persons with various assistive devices
- some temporary outdoor patio set-ups blocked accessible parking spots and curb ramps
- residential care facility evictions
- lack of open, accessible restrooms in public spaces
- the digital divide, being the gap that exists between individuals who have access to modern information and communication technology and those who do not, disproportionately hits the disabled population and is compounded by employment programs and libraries, often used for public internet access, being closed by emergency orders
- increased social isolation, loss of personal support workers, disruption of vital health services and difficulties accessing basic necessities and information
- accessible pedestrian signals were disabled, but notification of this change was not provided in an accessible format

- lack of representation by or consultation with persons with disabilities on the Emergency Operations Centre Team

(T. Nolan/Cameron)

That Tim Nolan and Tom Manzuk be authorized to delegate at the General Issues Committee on behalf of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities respecting all matters related to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on persons with disabilities, including recommendations for improved policies and procedures.

CARRIED

(g) GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS (Item 11)

(i) Accessibility Complaints to the City of Hamilton (Item 11.1)

No update.

(ii) *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) Update* (Item 11.2)

No update.

(iii) Presenters List for the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities (Item 11.3)

No changes to the presenters list for the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities were required.

(iv) Review of Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities Outstanding Business List (Item 11.4)

(Manzuk/Kilburn)

That Item 11.4, respecting a Review of Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities Outstanding Business List, be deferred to the October 13, 2020 Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities meeting due to time constraints.

CARRIED

(v) Gage Park Wheelchair Swing Ribbon Cutting Event (Added Item 11.5)

A ribbon cutting ceremony for the City of Hamilton's first wheelchair swing in Gage Park will be performed on Saturday September 19, 2020 at 10a.m. The ceremony will be performed virtually via livestream on Councillor Nrinder Nann's Facebook and Instagram pages.

For further disposition of this matter, see Item 2.

(h) ADJOURNMENT (Item 12)

(Sinclair/Geffros)

That there being no further business, the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities be adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

A. Mallet, Chair

Advisory Committee for
Persons with Disabilities

Alicia Davenport
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk