



Hamilton

**Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities**

**REPORT 11-006**

**4:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, November 8, 2011**

**Room 192/193 City Hall**

**71 Main Street West**

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**Present:** Councillor B. Morelli  
A. Mallett (Chair), T. Nolan (Vice-Chair)  
T. Wallis, K. Nolan, R. Semkow, M. Smithson,  
R. Thompson, T. Murphy, P. Cameron,  
R. Cameron, P. Killburn, B. Lane

**Absent with Regrets:** D. Maraj, R. Hirji-Khalfan

**Also Present:** J. Lee, M. Carter, J. Hayat, M. Duwai-Sowa Customer  
Service, Access and Equity  
G. Goguen Hamilton Police Service  
Andy Grozelle, Legislative Assistant, Clerks Office

**THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES PRESENTS  
REPORT 11-006 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:**

**1. 2011 Accessibility Plan (Item 6.1)**

- (a) That the 2011 Accessibility Plan be approved.
- (b) That all City of Hamilton departments be directed to provide a presentation to the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities in 2012, respecting their departments efforts in relation to the Accessibility Plan.

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:**

**(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)**

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

**General Issues Committee – December 12, 2011**

- (i) Distributed an update from Monteith Brown Planning Consultants, respecting item 4.1 Recreation Needs Assessment Update.

The agenda was approved as amended.

**(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

There were no declarations of interest.

**(c) MINUTES (Item 3)**

**(i) October 11, 2011**

Brian Lane indicated that he was marked absent in error.

The Minutes of October 11, 2011 were approved as amended.

**(d) PRESENTATIONS (Item 4)**

**(i) Recreation Needs Assessment Update (Item 4.1)**

Mary Jo, Harris, Manager, Business Support introduced Steve Langlois of Monteith Brown Planning Consultants. Mr. Langlois addressed the Committee with the Aid of a PowerPoint presentation. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation has been included in the official record:

- Discussed the upcoming Public Information Centre meeting on November 16, 2011 6:00 p.m. at the Central Library in the Wentworth room
- Provided an overview of the scope of the study and it's aims and goals of the Recreation needs Assessment
- Discussed the community groups and city representatives involved in bringing the Recreation Needs Assessment forward
- Provided an overview of the existing programs and services, as well local service providers and trends in other communities
- Discussed some common themes; right to be respected and included in recreation, lack of awareness of what is available, Coordinated communication efforts across sectors are lacking, The high cost of many programs is a common barrier to participation, need to continue to improve accessible transportation
- Provided an update on the current status of service delivery
- Discussed the strategic framework to create action plans and to strive towards having implementation in the next five years

Committee members asked several questions. Highlights included but were not limited to the following:

- Committee members made several inquiries regarding how recreational information will be shared with the public, suggesting different options for getting the message out
- Committee members discussed the use of the word disabilities and to be careful of how the term is used. Committee members indicated that accessibility is not just about disabilities but also how the service is provide, the timing of programs and the human supports available
- Committee members discussed the relationship between the City and outside organizations to promote recreation in the community
- Committee members discussed the need for local infrastructure to encouraging recreation within an individuals own community
- Committee members discussed the need to ensure facilities are using accessible features, speakers, signage, Braille, etc.
- Committee members discussed the staff turn-over in recreation centres and it is important to provide ongoing training to staff
- Committee members discussed the problem with segregating the disabled community from the larger community and it is important to engage all groups together in recreation activities
- Committee members discussed what current services are provided in Hamilton and indicated there is a need to expand these as well as to look for more opportunities to include those with disabilities in able-bodied sports
- Committee members discussed the need for the City to assist outside groups and organizations in assisting them in accessing City resources
- Committee members discussed the need for ongoing evaluation of services and measurements of results
- Staff indicated that the study will go into work plans and staff will be reporting back on an ongoing basis on these items
  
- Councillor Morelli thanked staff for their consultations on this issue, indicating that part of the plan is to ensure there is a viable implementation, also being cognizant of the limited resources available to the City and the huge impact of volunteerism in this area

The presentation respecting Recreation Needs Assessment was received.

**(e) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 6)**

**(i) 2011 Accessibility Plan (previously distributed (Item 6.1))**

Maxine Carter, Access & Equity Coordinator provided an update to the Committee providing an overview of the 2011 Accessibility Plan.

For disposition on this item refer to Item 1.

**(ii) DARTS “Callback” Trial (Item 6.2)**

On a Motion the DARTS “Callback” Trial item, was referred to the Transportation Sub-committee.

**(f) OTHER BUSINESS (Item 7)**

**(i) Bed Bugs (Added item 7.1)**

P. Cameron, brought forward the issue of the Bed Bugs at First Place as it is a location a wheelchair group uses for rehearsal. Councillor Morelli provided background and indicated that the bed bug issue is one that is impacting many areas of which the City of Hamilton is only one. There was some general discussion of other facilities the wheelchair group could use for rehearsals.

**(ii) Transportation Sub-committee Update (Added item 7.2)**

T. Nolan provided some background on the recent work of the Transportation Sub-committee. Discussed the minimum age of 12 set for traveling alone on DARTS and the debate around this issue.

**(iii) Built Environment Sub-committee Update (Added Item 7.3)**

R. Cameron provided an update on the Sub-committees first meeting. Discussed several areas where the Sub-committee is planning to investigate further, such as increase above the 5% Accessible Housing goal for Social Housing, Creating a greater feedback process around Roundabouts, Further discussions around bus stop accessibility implementation.

**(iv) Pan Am Stadium Update (Added Item 7.4)**

Councillor Morelli, provided an update to the Committee on the Pan Am Stadium construction. He indicated that in his role as Chair of the Pan Am Stadium Precinct Sub-committee he has been advocating for accessibility and to create a community legacy. Councillor Morelli indicated that there is limited new information to provide the Committee with; however the Sub-committee will be meeting in the upcoming week.

**(v) Paula Killburn 21 years of volunteerism (Added Item 7.5)**

The Committee recognized Paula Killburn on her 21 years of volunteerism with the CNIB and thanked her for her efforts on behalf of the community.

**(g) ADJOURNMENT (Item 8)**

The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Aznive Mallett, Chair  
Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities

Andy Grozelle  
Legislative Assistant  
November 8, 2011