



Hamilton

Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities

Minutes 15-002

4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Rooms 192/193 City Hall

71 Main Street West

Present: A. Mallett (Chair)
T. Nolan (Vice Chair)
P. Cameron, P. Kilburn, B. Lane, T. Manzuk, T. Murphy,
K. Nolan, R. Semkow, T. Wallis

**Absent
with regrets:** Councillor S. Merulla
R. Hirji-Khalfan, D. Maraj, R. Thompson

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:

(a) APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA (Item 1)

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

- (i) Added as Item 6.3 – Correspondence from Cindy Mercanti, Director, Customer Service, Access and Equity, respecting a Call for AODA Success Stories from the Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario
- (ii) Added as Item 9.2 – Verbal Update from the Committee Clerk respecting various Committee Business Items and Administrative Matters

(Kilburn/Semkow)

That the agenda for the February 10, 2015 meeting of the Accessibility 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) Minutes of the January 13, 2015 meeting of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities (Item 3.1)

(Semkow/Cameron)

That the Minutes of the January 13, 2015 meeting of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

(d) PRESENTATIONS (Item 5)

(i) Presentation from Michelle Martin, Community Access to Transportation, Salvation Army Lawson Ministries Hamilton, respecting an Update on the Current Status of the City funded Bus Training Program (Item 5.1)

Ms. Michelle Martin with the Community Access to Transportation project at the Salvation Army Lawson Ministries Hamilton, made a presentation to the Committee respecting the current status of the City funded Bus Training Program. A copy of the presentation has been retained for the public record.

Ms. Martin's presentation included, but was not limited to, the following:

- Project Description and Goals
- Agency Partners
- Total Completion Rate
- Instruction Methods Used
- Safety Considerations Covered by the Program
- Program Evaluation
- Success of the Program

(K. Nolan/Wallis)

That the update from Michelle Martin, Community Access to Transportation, Salvation Army Lawson Ministries Hamilton, respecting an Update on the Current Status of the City funded Bus Training Program, be received.

CARRIED

(ii) Presentation from Daiene Verissimo, Specialist, Orientation and Mobility, Canadian National Institute for the Blind, respecting Urban Braille (Item 5.2)

Ms. Daiene Verissimo, Specialist, Orientation and Mobility, Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB), spoke to the Committee about Urban Braille and answered questions posed by Committee members.

Ms. Verissimo's remarks included, but were not limited to, the following:

- her role, and that of the CNIB's, in teaching individuals how to travel safely at home or in the community
- the importance of having identifiable sidewalk crossing markings, known as Urban Braille, lined up properly so people can cross the street safely
- the challenges presented for Urban Braille by Canadian winters and general sidewalk maintenance
- Urban Braille not only involves tactile markings but sometimes contrasting colour for people with low vision who have trouble identifying tactile surfaces
- the City of Hamilton uses a wide variety of Urban Braille; this can sometimes create confusion as it is not consistent across the city

(Kilburn/Wallis)

That the update from Daiene Verissimo, Specialist, Orientation and Mobility, Canadian National Institute for the Blind, respecting Urban Braille, be received.

CARRIED

(e) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 6)

(i) Update from the Transportation Sub-Committee (Item 6.1)

(i) Notes from the November 25, 2014 meeting of the Transportation Sub-Committee (Item 6.1(i))

(Murphy/Manzuk)

That the Notes from the November 25, 2014 meeting of the Transportation Sub-Committee, be received.

CARRIED

(ii) Verbal Update from the Transportation Sub-Committee (Item 6.1(ii))

There was no verbal update from the Transportation Sub-Committee.

(ii) Update from the Built Environment Sub-Committee (Item 6.2)

Ms. Terri Wallis provided the Committee with an update about the activities of the Built Environment Sub-Committee. The Minutes of the Sub-Committee's February 2015 meeting will be forwarded to the Committee at a later date.

(Kilburn/Manzuk)

That the update from the Built Environment Sub-Committee, be received.

CARRIED

(iii) Correspondence from Cindy Mercanti, Director, Customer Service, Access and Equity, respecting a Call for AODA Success Stories from the Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (Added Item 6.3)

Ms. Cindy Mercanti, Director, Customer Service, Access and Equity, addressed the Committee respecting Correspondence from the Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario Call regarding a call for AODA Success Stories.

Anyone who is interested in participating in this opportunity was asked to contact Ms. Mercanti by February 13, 2015. A working group will then be formed to deal with this matter.

(Wallis/Kilburn)

That the Correspondence from Cindy Mercanti, Director, Customer Service, Access and Equity, respecting a Call for AODA Success Stories from the Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario, be received.

CARRIED

(f) MOTIONS (Item 8)

(i) Accessibility at Healthcare Facilities

This motion was tabled for a future meeting.

(g) OTHER BUSINESS (Item 19)

(i) Verbal Update from Maxine Carter, Manager, Access and Equity Office, respecting Outdoor Handrails at City Hall

Ms. Maxine Carter, Manager, Access and Equity Office, provided the Committee with a Verbal Update respecting Outdoor Handrails at City Hall.

Ms. Carter indicated that the safety of the handrails outside of City Hall has been a long-standing issue. Ms. Carter did an inspection of the handrails with Facilities staff to assess measures that can be taken to improve safety. Until a permanent solution is found, Facilities staff have implemented some interim measures. Yellow stripes have been added to some of the railings so they are more easily identified.

The issue of Outdoor Handrail safety will be discussed at a future meeting of the Built Environment Sub-Committee. Ms. Carter will also be meeting with Facilities staff to discuss the interim measures. The Committee will be kept apprised of the situation and any developments.

(Semkow/Wallis)

That the update from Maxine Carter, Manager, Access and Equity Office, respecting Outdoor Handrails at City Hall, be received.

CARRIED

(ii) Verbal Update from the Committee Clerk respecting various Committee Business Items and Administrative Matters

The update from Lauri Leduc, Committee Clerk, respecting various Committee Business Items and Administrative Matters, was tabled to a future meeting.

(h) ADJOURNMENT (Item 10)

(Kilburn/Semkow)

That there being no further business, the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities Committee be adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A. Mallet, Chair
Advisory Committee for Persons with
Disabilities

Lauri Leduc
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk