



Hamilton

Minutes

Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities
Built Environment Sub-Committee
Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 4:00pm – 6:00 p.m.
City Hall, 71 Main St. W., Room 192

Present: Mary Sinclair (Chair), Al Nicolls, Tom Manzuk, Tim Murphy, Paula Kilburn (by phone).

Absent with

Regrets: Aznive Mallett, Terri Wallis, Patty Cameron.

Also

Present: Jessica Bowen, Human Rights, Diversity & Inclusion
Adrian Page, Human Rights, Diversity & Inclusion

Guest: Efram Turchick (Hamilton resident)
Luke Anderson, StopGap (via conference call).

1. Changes to the Agenda

1.1 Addition of Item 5.1 Pop Up Parks

Agenda approved as amended

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

2.1 Built Environment Sub-Committee Meeting Notes, dated March 6, 2018

3. Presentations

3.1 StopGap Presentation

E. Turchick and L. Anderson shared their interest in renewing StopGap throughout the City of Hamilton. L. Anderson from StopGap provided some background information on the StopGap project. StopGap has been working with many communities across the country building a community ramp project. The project began in 2011 and started with 11 ramps. Due to the overwhelming success and demand, 50 communities participate in the bringing these ramps to their local businesses. There are now over 1,000 ramps in use across Canada.

The Committee asked several questions including the following:

Q: What these ramps are like?

A: The ramps are temporary and made with a plywood top with a wood foundation, to be custom suited. The business owners take on the responsibility of using the ramps safely. All municipalities have a bylaw that prevents a small business from having anything out of its premises on City property. The ramps are to be used on a request basis. Business owners need to sign a waiver that says they will participate under those terms. In most cases, they are getting a ramp at little to no cost through donation, fundraisers, etcetera.

There was a Hamilton Community Ramp Project and StopGap were working with the Hamilton Tool Library; the Tool Library no longer exists.

StopGap is a temporary solution to enable individuals to have access to businesses while they work towards more permanent solutions to increase accessibility.

Q: If businesses have these ramps is there something that they have that will notify members of the public that a ramp is available?

A: With each ramp, participating business owners have a sign. There is a spot on the sign to include a phone number so that when someone wants to access the business, they can call and get in contact with someone. We also recommend using inexpensive call bells that cost \$30.00 to \$40.00 at a hardware store.

Q: What are the concerns with the ramps?

A: Concern has been expressed previously about liability. The ramp elevation is also a concern as it may be different for each location.

Because StopGap ramps are temporary, there is no need to apply for a building permit and they are not governed by the Ontario Building Code.

E. Turchick suggested following measures be implemented by the City to support accessibility:

1. City sponsored outreach to encourage step-to-ramp conversions. Educating business owners and defining the fiscal benefits;

2. City waiving administrative fees;
3. One time property tax rebate as an added incentive;
4. Incorporate StopGap into the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan.

The Committee requested City staff to attend an upcoming meeting to share information on the concerns that the City may have in relation to the StopGap project.

4. Discussion Items

i. Barrier-Free Design Guidelines Revision Project (BFDG)

No update

ii. Review of New Capital Projects

Annual list of projects confirmation

The Committee reviewed the list of new capital projects as outlined by Public Works, Strategic Planning, Capital & Compliance. The Committee agreed to review the following projects:

1. Pinky Lewis Recreation Centre Renovations
2. Hamilton Police Services: Investigation Services Division
3. New Greensville Elementary School Community Center and Library

Committee members agreed to create two lists outlining accessibility considerations for Washrooms and Elevators. The checklists will use the information that has been collected during accessibility tours as well as from members experiences using these facilities. These two lists will be submitted to Capital Planning for review.

- iii. **Tour of Facilities**
Deferred to next meeting
- iv. **Accessible Pedestrian Signals**
Deferred to next meeting
- v. **Beach Strip Trail Washroom**
Deferred to next meeting
- vi. **Bus Stop Audit & Design**
Deferred to next meeting
- vii. **City Hall Audit**
Deferred to next meeting
- viii. **MacNab Street Terminal Deficiency Audit**
Deferred to next meeting
- ix. **Social Housing Accessibility Issues & Concerns**
Deferred to next meeting
- x. **Tim Hortons Stadium**
Deferred to next meeting
- xi. **Washroom Accessibility**
Deferred to next meeting
- xii. **Curbing at Intersections**
Deferred to next meeting

5. Other Business

- 5.1 Pop-up Parks
Deferred to next meeting

6. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 1, 2018