

# Housing Working Group Meeting Notes

Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Virtual WebEx Meeting

10:00AM – 12:00PM

Those in Attendance: James Kemp, Robert Semkow, Jayne Cardno, Tom Manzuk, Paula Kilburn

Also Present: Taline Morris

Those Absent: Lance Dingman, Sophie Geffros,

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Approval of October 19<sup>th</sup> agenda: Agenda was approved.
3. Approval of September 21<sup>st</sup> meeting notes: Meeting notes were approved.
4. CityHousing and AODA compliance: We read through the attached list gleaned from points of interest in “Unlocking the AODA.” We will be asking for CityHousing to come and speak with us so that we can review AODA policies connected to housing.
5. RCF Magnet/Poster/Placemat Project: The Chair reported that trying to make a preliminary list of currently active programming, in matters of recreation and education has

proven difficult due to the pandemic. We will revisit this in the New Year when, hopefully, things will have stabilized enough to allow us to continue. We are also looking at working with the Roundtable for Poverty Reduction regarding their work on legal advice for tenants.

6. All Advisory Committee Meeting Update: The Chair provided a brief digest of the events at the meeting. The highlight for housing being that the Chair of the Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee is interested in exploring a collaboration between our two groups.

7. Other Business: There were a few things that were mentioned regarding the list that need noting, MCS and Idling, Hoarding issues and procedures, disability advocates in each building, self-serve kiosks like laundry services. Another issue raised was the issue of homelessness and encampments. The group feels that a letter to the E&CS Committee is required and have selected a member to compose it. We also discussed collaborations with ACORN, HAMSIX and other agencies regarding Disability.

8. Adjournment.

## Unlocking the AODA: Report Analysis

### ACPD Housing Working Group

We read through the Unlocking the AODA Report and we culled a number of points for initial review with CityHousing regarding their

AODA Compliance. These are the majority of the issues. A more detailed analysis can occur after the initial audit.

1. Employers of over 50 people are required to be level AA Compliant as of the beginning of 2021.
  - a. Employers of over 50 people are required to be level AA Web Accessible Compliant.
2. New picnic tables, benches and other seating must be installed on level, hard surfaces and connected to accessible pathways.
3. Playgrounds need to be fully accessible and those with disabilities should be consulted before construction.
4. Required to follow IASR guidelines regarding accessible parking spaces.
5. If service counters are offered, at least one needs to be fully accessible.
6. Queuing guide ropes need to be at an accessible height.

7. At least 3% of seating in lobbies and waiting areas need to be able to accommodate all mobility devices.
8. Housing providers are required to have maintenance plans in place to ensure that the AODA is being adhered to despite the disruptions.
9. Accessibility, sensitivity and accommodation training must be provided to all employees, contractors and volunteers.
10. Housing providers must place notice and bulletin boards at accessible levels.
11. Leaving notices of entry on doors is not enough with disabled tenants. They may not leave very often and wouldn't see the notice with enough time. More effort is required.
12. Toxic chemicals can trigger Multiple Chemical Sensitivities(MCS). The least toxic should be used when required.
13. Seven day cleaning notices may not be enough time in cases of hoarding. More time may be required.

14. Accommodations need to be made when showing new units to prospective tenants.
15. An AODA Compliance Report is required every three years. Online Compliance must be reviewed as well.
16. Housing providers are required to make accommodations up to the point of Undue Hardship.
17. Self-service kiosks are required to be fully accessible and can accommodate those with vision loss.