



Hamilton

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
REPORT 11-001**

4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 8, 2011

Room 192 City Hall

71 Main Street West

Present: T. Nolan (Chair) F. Chesney (Vice Chair)
Councillor B. Morelli
T. Wallis, K. Nolan, R. Semkow, K. Nolan
R. Cameron, M. Smithson, P. Cameron,
T. Manzuk, S. Derkach, A. Mallett, D. Burkett

Absent with Regrets: M. Thomas, B. Helwig

Also Present: D. Hull, Director Transit
R. D'Angelo, K. Mislav, Public Works
M. Carter, J. Hayat, D. Sadler Customer Service, Access
and Equity
Andy Grozelle, Legislative Assistant, Clerks Office

**THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES PRESENTS
REPORT 11-001 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:**

1. Accessible Social Housing Initiative (Item 5.4(i))

- a) That ACPD recommend to Council that the Social Housing and Homelessness Division prepare a progress report regarding how they have implemented the minimum of 5% accessible units for newly built and renovated housing projects including the details of how the City's internal processes are being communicated in the Requests For Proposals and Tenders for retrofits, renovations and new construction projects to housing providers.
- b) That Social Housing and Homelessness Division provide a detailed list of all contracts awarded to proponents and housing providers who are retrofitting, renovating and constructing new housing since April 2010 and indicating which of these projects have included accessibility features in their proposals.

2. Interlocking Brick Replacement Plan (Item 5.4 (ii))

That ACPD recommend to Council that Public Works develop a replacement plan to remove interlocking bricks that are currently being used in high traffic areas of the City to build sidewalks as they present barriers to accessibility and safety for pedestrians.

3. Ontario Human Rights Commission – Mental Health Consultations (no copy) (Item 6.7)

That the City of Hamilton send a letter inviting the Ontario Human Rights Commission to hold consultations in the City of Hamilton on Human Rights and Mental Health Issues.

CARRIED

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. by Chair Nolan.

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Clerk advised of the following changes to the agenda.

PRESENTATIONS

4.1 McNab Street Transit Terminal Update (no copy)

SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES

5.2 Minutes of the November 23, 2010 meeting of the Transportation Sub-committee (previously emailed to members)

5.3 Report of the January 25, 2011 meeting of the Transportation Sub-committee (previously emailed to members)

5.4 Minutes of the December 6, 2010 meeting of the Built Environment Sub-committee

(i) Report of the December 6, 2010 meeting of the Built Environment Sub-committee

(ii) Second Report of the December 6, 2010 meeting of the Built Environment Sub-committee

On a Motion (R. Cameron/Burkett) the agenda was approved as amended.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) MINUTES (Item 3)

(i) Minutes of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities meeting held on January 11, 2011 (Item 3.1)

The minutes of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities meeting held on January 11, 2011 were approved as presented.

(d) PRESENTATIONS (Item 4)

McNab Street Terminal (Added Item 4.1)

Don Hull, Director of Transit provided a verbal update to the committee on the McNab Street Transit Terminal. Highlights included but were not limited to the following:

- Discussed the progress with the aid of a working document that he indicated would be provided to Committee members
- Discussed the electronic side usage
- Discussed the de-boarding and how they have less accidents by backing down the ramps
- No buses in the terminal for the demonstration and we couldn't have the buses in there, this was the only way we could get in there
- Signage, staff indicated that they followed the Built Environment guidelines
- Reached the 70% contrast ratio as was in the Built Environment guidelines
- There was no accessible signage for waiting area, staff indicated that was done in response to previous feedback from the Committee
- Staff indicated that they would be willing to remove benches if that is what is required
- Staff indicated the wait for gap was standard regulatory language however they would like whatever a
- Emergency call buttons are mounted too high so staff indicated that they are looking to resolving that issue
- Staff indicated that they will be installing vinyl system maps in large print on the walls
- Automatic door opener issue has been rectified

- Bus schedule and route maps are larger
- Staff indicated that the accessible washroom meets the Built Environment Guidelines
- Staff indicated the contrast on the decals meets the Barrier Free Guidelines
- Staff indicated that the steep ramp into the underground CIBC parking tunnel was an established condition prior to the construction, staff indicated that there is a warning strip there in line with the urban Braille guidelines
- Staff indicated that the curb height had to stay at the conventional height or else it would tear the front off the bus, staff apologized for not identifying this earlier
- Staff indicated that all the curb cuts have had textured strips installed as per the Urban Braille Standard
- Staff indicated that the walk display times at the McNab and King Street cross walk exceeds the standard
- Staff indicated that permanent non-smoking signs have been installed on the site
- Staff indicated that they are open to travel tours for those who may have disabilities and need to use the terminal
- Staff indicated that the building was cleared and they expect it to be opened on Monday
- Staff indicated that the platform is open however the snow melting system is not up an running

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

Fran Chesney asked about the safety issues around getting the buses close enough to get within four inches or less in order for

- Staff indicated that it is an issue especially when getting too close can shred up tires that cost \$800 each
- Staff suggested that they may install a curb railing to help guide the buses
- Staff indicated that since the buses are moving forward parallel to the curbs they should hopefully be able to get within that four inches

Ms. Chesney indicated that she was concerned about the safety issue with the cross walk issue. Terri Wallis supplemented by showing a picture of the site that there is a lack of signage on a cross walk. Chair Nolan indicated that cross walks should be placed where you would expect them.

- Staff indicated that they had the CNIB through the site
- Staff indicated that they had desired to put another cross walk in the site however it would reduce the functionality of the site

There was some discussion on how to proceed with the working document.

R. Cameron indicated that he was hoping that we would exceed the Built Environment Standards

- Staff indicated that where possible they would welcome improving the standard

Maxine Carter indicated that the design of the washroom wasn't a Built Environment issue it was more of a layout issue. Indicating that the sink wasn't accessible for people, the toilet opened on the door, the thumb lock doesn't often work for people who can't use their hands to lock it.

- Staff indicated that they would look into the issue of the washroom and try to see how the washroom functions to see what can be corrected and what issues work themselves out.

Terri Wallis brought up some issues, small signs by bus stops, yellow on white for signage. Asked about the issue of going backwards on ramps and asked staff if they ever walk backwards.

- Staff indicated that they are looking into that issue and probably should leave it open ended at this point

Ms. Wallis commented that she almost got hit by a car coming out of a parking lot

On a motion the working document presented by Public Works staff was referred to the 2010-2014 term of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities.

The presentation by staff respecting the McNab Street Terminal was received.

(e) SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES

(i) Built Environment Sub-committee Minutes, November 15, 2010 (Item 5.1)

Fran Chesney provided an update to Committee members. Highlights included but were not limited to the following;

- Discussed the Minutes of the Built Environment Sub-committee's efforts over the last year
- Introduced Terri Wallis' photo essay on Bus Stop Placement Design

Terri Wallis provided a presentation with the Aid of Power Point. Highlights included but were not limited to the following;

- Showed the articulated bus picking her up at Main Street in front of City Hall indicated that there was barely enough room for her small chair to board
- Showed a picture of John and Main where the bus has to board on a curb cut which creates a very steep ramp
- John and Jackson you have to run an obstacle course to try to get in

- Showed a series of stops that have a obstacle course to navigate
- Showed the Meadow lands stop where you end up right on grass
- Steep hill right beside the Meadow lands stop cause and dangerous issue
- Discussed the street advertising benches with inaccessible garbage
- Stone Church Road East you can get off the bus to a sidewalk with no curb cut
- Upper Ottawa & Rymal all grass no curb cuts
- Discussed the distances between bus stops and shelters
- King & Queen new stop when you get off the bus you run into a fence
- Ottawa and Main cable in the way for people getting on and off
- Chester & Chelsey the bus stop gets off into a ditch and the sidewalk is behind that
- Stone Church Road East and Upper Gauge is a good example of a stop

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

- Mary Smithson indicated that this issue goes beyond wheelchairs or scooters indicated that with a new hip getting off backwards is dangerous
- Indicated that they should make a distinction between low vision and blind such as they make a definition between hard of hearing and deaf as this is important when you look at bus stops

The Minutes of the Built Environment Sub-committee November 15, 2010 meeting were received.

The presentation from Terri Wallis was received.

**(ii) Transportation Sub-committee Minutes, November 23, 2010
(Added Item 5.2)**

The Minutes of the Transportation Sub-committee November 23, 2010 meeting were received.

**(iii) Transportation Sub-committee Report January 25, 2011 (Added
Item 5.3)**

Aznive Mallett provided an update to Committee members. Highlights included but were not limited to the following;

- Discussed the Report of the Transportation Sub-committee's January meeting
- Was pleased to announce that they had consultations with some of the Rapid Transit Committee meeting
- Interesting discussion about the survey and has not yet come forward
- The ATS performance reports were not done
- There was a discussion on the video cameras on HSR
- There was some discussion on the need for a vehicle to transport an overweight vehicle
- Darts is now going to allow infants on their vehicles which poses further inquiries from the Committee members on what was done previously

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

- Fran Chesney indicated that she had discussion with someone about the cost of taxi services for accessible vehicles

Ms. Mallett indicated that there are no accessible taxi's in the City of Hamilton what is here is livery services. Chair Nolan indicated that this has been an ongoing matter and city staff are working on it. Chair Nolan indicated that the Integrated Standard has been put into place and this should be referred to. Chair Nolan indicated that there is information coming forward soon on same day service.

The Report of the Transportation Sub-committee January 25, 2011 meeting be received.

(iii) Built Environment Sub-committee (Added Item 5.4)

(a) Minutes December 6, 2010 (Added Item 5.4(i))

The Minutes of the Built Environment Sub-committee December 6, 2010 meeting were received.

(b) Report One December 6, 2010 (Added Item 5.4(ii))

Fran Chesney provided an update to Committee members. Highlights included but were not limited to the following;

- Discussed the Report of the Built Environment Sub-committee's recommendations

- The Committee Clerk advised that staff had reported back to Emergency and Community Services Committee on this matter and that had resulted in a letter to the Minister.
- The Committee Clerk indicated that this was the only action approved through this report and that the minimum 5% was commented on in the content of the report as contingent on external funding
- R. Cameron clarified that staff had met with Committee and indicated they were implementing the 5% minimum.

The first Report of the Built Environment Sub-committee December 6, 2010 meeting was received.

For further disposition on this matter refer to Item 1.

(c) Report Two December 6, 2010 (Added Item 5.4(ii))

Fran Chesney provided an update to Committee members. Highlights included but were not limited to the following;

- Discussed the Report was brought forwarded to the Built Environment Committee about this issue
- Discussed the use of imprinted brick designs on pavement as being an issue that
- Discussed how the Built Environment Sub-Committee members are only getting part of the picture when staff come to present

The second Report of the Built Environment Sub-committee December 6, 2010 meeting was received.

For further disposition on this matter refer to Item 2.

(f) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 6)

(i) Results of the Hamilton Police Services discussion with ACPD (referred from January meeting) (Item 6.1)

Item 6.1, Results of the Hamilton Police Services discussion with ACPD was referred to a future meeting of the Committee.

(ii) Summary of Initiatives Project for the Advisory Committee (Draft copy distributed by staff at January meeting) (Item 6.2)

Item 6.2, Summary of Initiatives Project for the Advisory Committee was referred to a future meeting of the Committee.

(iii) Disability and Accessibility Resources and Information booklet (Copies distributed by staff at January meeting) (Item 6.3)

Item 6.3, Disability and Accessibility Resources and Information booklet was referred to a future meeting of the Committee.

(iv) Appointment of ACPD Chair to Advisory Working Group of the Ministry of Community and Social Services Accessibility Directorate of Ontario (Item 6.4)

On a Motion the Chair of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities was appointed as the Committees representative n the Advisory Working Group of the Ministry of Community and Social Service Accessibility Directorate of Ontario.

(v) Review of Outstanding Business List (Item 6.5)

- (i) Memorandum**
- (ii) Council Motion April, 12, 2006**
- (iii) Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities Outstanding Business List**

Item 6.4, Review of Outstanding Business List was referred to a future meeting of the Committee.

(vi) March meeting date (no copy) (Item 6.6)

The Committee Clerk advised that since the selection process for the next term of ACPD was expected to being next month staff have suggested that this be the last meeting of the current membership. Chair Nolan asked if there was any opposition to this, hearing none the direction was approved.

**(vii) Ontario Human Rights Commission – Mental Health Consultations
(no copy) (Item 6.7)**

Chair Nolan outlined the need the importance of Mental Health and Human Rights issues in the City of Hamilton.

For further disposition on this matter refer to Item 3.

(f) NEW BUSINESS (Item 7)

None

(g) ADJOURNMENT (Item 8)

The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Nolan, Chair
Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities

Andy Grozelle
Legislative Assistant
February 8, 2011