

St. Thomas Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee

MINUTES June 11, 2020

Location: Conference Call

Time: 10:00am

Present: Cathy Topping, Councillor Stephen Peters, Sheila Rodaway, Tracey Tiersma, Brenda Ryan, Graham Dart, Leslie McClure, Deborah Herridge-Walters, Amy McWhirter

Regrets: Ken Lizotte

10:02 a.m. The meeting convened with C. Topping, Chair, presiding.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

NIL

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER

A. McWhirter introduced herself and some of her accessibility related background with the committee.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Motion by B. Ryan – S. Rodaway:

THAT: The minutes of the meeting held on February 27, 2020 be confirmed.

Carried.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Budget – with COVID-19, there have been no expenses or change to the committee funds.
2. Special Events: with COVID-19, meetings and most events have been cancelled – nothing to report
3. Site Plan Control – No comments or concerns were received regarding site alteration permits that were emailed to committee members on May 29, 2020 for either 63 Elm Street or 84 Park Avenue.

The members discussed a new procedure to provide for full committee participation in the site alteration feedback process. When site plan applications are received by email from the Planning & Building Department, they will be forwarded to the committee as a whole for comments or concerns. These notices will include links to the applications and drawings and are given a minimum of 10 days prior to public meetings dates. Committee members are asked to email any concerns to the secretary and the Chair as soon as possible and prior to the public meeting date. The Chair will then consolidate the Committee's comments on the site plan application and submit them for consideration.

Members discussed the pop-out patios on Talbot Street for restaurants to offer outdoor patio service during Covid-19 restrictions. A diagram of the dimensions was emailed to the committee members during the meeting and it was confirmed by the Manager of Development and Compliance that the pedestrian path would comply with AODA regulations.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Recommendations of City Hall Site Audit Men's Downstairs Public Washroom – Grab Bar placement - Grab bar was installed in the Men's washroom on June 10, 2020.

The secretary informed the committee members that all requests for future modifications to City properties should be directed through the secretary to forward to the appropriate personnel for consideration.

Councillor Peters encouraged committee members to email customerservice@stthomas.ca with any accessibility concerns in the City.

B. Ryan inquired about accessibility clauses in the rental contracts of city owned facilities. This item will be put on the next agenda for further discussion.

2. Members discussed the Annual Accessibility Open House.

Motion by S. Rodaway – B. Ryan:

THAT: The committee cancel the 2020 Annual Open House and re-schedule it for September 2021.

Carried.

3. Invitation to Ryan Hooey from the Canadian National Institute for the Blind Foundation (CBNIB)– Ontario West - will be postponed for a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of the 2020 Accessibility Plan

Motion by B. Ryan – L. McClure:

THAT: The committee approve the 2020 Accessibility Plan as written.

Carried.

2. Discussion on the 2020 Site Audits

Motion by S. Rodaway – D. Herridge-Walters:

THAT: The committee postpone the site audits until 2021

Carried.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at the call of the Chair

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by B. Ryan – S. Rodaway

THAT: The committee adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

Carried.


Signed, Chair, Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee


Date