

St. Thomas Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee

MINUTES
March 25, 2021

Location: Teams Video Meeting
Time: 9:00am
Present: Cathy Topping, Councillor Stephen Peters, Sheila Rodaway, Tracey Tiersma, Brenda Ryan, Ken Lizotte, Amy McWhirter, Adrian Williams
Absent: L. McClure

9:08a.m. The meeting convened with C. Topping, Chair, presiding.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

NIL

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Motion by: B. Ryan –S. Rodaway

THAT: The minutes of the meeting held on January 28, 2021 be confirmed.

Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

C. Topping reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the committee members as outlined by provincial legislation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Budget: Nothing to report
2. Special Events: Approval of Kinsmen Easter Egg Hunt at Pinafore Park on Saturday April 3rd, 2021 – this is a drive-by event only as per directed by Southwestern Public Health
3. Site Plan Control: C. Topping reporting:
 - a. New Parking Lot for trailers/trucks at 200 Edward – private parking, accessible spaces not required.
 - b. Legion on St. John St. – spaces already accounted for
 - c. Elevator into Central Elgin Collegiate Institute – spaces already accounted for
 - d. 1025 Talbot St. –5 Commercial buildings business/offices - spaces already accounted for
 - e. Scott St. Apartments – request to add accessible spaces in front instead of back
 - f. Highbury Ave: Storage Unit - requested an A and B parking spaces

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Members discussed City-owned leased/rental properties. In future when COVID restrictions ease, the committee if agreed, can request entry to do a site audit. Councillor Peters discussed single-family unit housing as aging infrastructure that will become surplus properties and as such these homes will not be retrofitted due to undue hardship. B. Ryan agreed that a certain number of units in new builds should have accessibility features as a part of built environment. S. Rodaway mentioned that 200 Chestnut is entirely accessible where some of the other buildings were only partially accessible. In discussion, Councillor Peters shared the issues with retrofitting with respect to the micro-apartments above the Transit station and stated it was more economical to build new structures with accessible features in mind than retro-fit later. The decision of the committee is to wait for restrictions to lift and request to attend some apartments (not single unit dwellings) for site audits and give recommendations to Council.

B. Ryan requested that the committee invite to a May /June meeting - Ashkaf Hussain, (Kash) a member of the London Municipal Accessible Committee.

Committee requested that the secretary invite Ryan Hooey from CNIB to April meeting.

NEXT MEETING

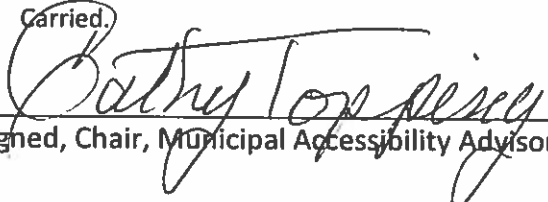
The next meeting will be at 9:00am on Thursday April 29th via Microsoft Teams.

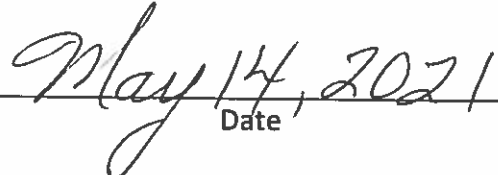
ADJOURNMENT

Motion by: B. Ryan – K. Lizotte

THAT: The committee adjourned at 9:41a.m.

Carried.


Signed, Chair, Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee


Date