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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 25, 2019

A meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, June 25, 2019 in Meeting Room 1-A, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 1:01 PM.

Present: R. Atkinson, Whitby
D. Campbell, Whitby
D. Hume-McKenna, DMHS, left the meeting at 2:22 PM
Councillor R. Mulcahy
M. Roche, Oshawa

Absent: M. Sutherland, Oshawa, Chair
S. Sones, Whitby, Vice-Chair
C. Boose, Ajax
K. Galloway, Oshawa

Staff

Present: C. Drimmie, Manager, Corporate Initiatives, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, left the meeting at 1:58 PM
J. Traer, Accessibility Coordinator, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer
N. Prasad, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

In the absence of the Committee Chair and Vice-Chair, the Committee Clerk called for a motion to appoint an Acting Chair for the meeting.

Moved by D. Hume-McKenna, Seconded by D. Campbell,
That M. Roche be appointed as Acting Chair of the Accessibility
Advisory Committee for the meeting of June 25, 2019.

CARRIED

M. Roche assumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Mulcahy, Seconded by R. Atkinson,
That the minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting
held on May 28, 2019, be adopted.

CARRIED

3. Presentations

A) Durham Region Staff re: Input into the Durham Region Strategic Plan

C. Drimmie, Manager, Corporate Initiatives, appeared before the Committee with regards to the Durham Region's New Strategic Plan. A PowerPoint Presentation was provided.

C. Drimmie stated that the Region of Durham is currently developing its five-year strategic plan. She stated that the plan will be a guiding document for the region that will create a framework for service planning and delivery.

C. Drimmie stated that staff and community consultation is important to the success of the plan and advised that the Region has launched Your Voice Durham, a digital engagement platform to encourage community participation. She stated that everyone is encouraged to visit the site to find out about upcoming public engagement sessions and pop up events. She also encouraged members to complete the online survey and advised that paper copies of the survey will be available at libraries, seniors centres and other locations.

C. Drimmie stated that the following are four main steps to the strategic planning process:

1. Analyzing our current state;
2. Defining our preferred future state;
3. Determining our key objectives and strategies; and
4. Implementation and evaluation.

At this point in the meeting, C. Drimmie facilitated an exercise where committee members provided feedback to three specific questions. The following is a summary of the feedback provided:

1. What challenges are we currently facing as a Region?
 - Specialized transit – demand greater than supply
 - Building on rural lands
 - Traffic flow
 - Housing affordability and accessibility
 - Health for vulnerable populations
 - Lack of accessible trails
 - Some traffic lights change too fast
 - Sidewalk clearing
 - Compassion for the homeless and people with challenges

2. Given these challenges, what are the top priorities or most pressing issues that you feel we need to focus on over the next 5 years?

- Unemployment and economic development
- Development of more accessible and affordable housing
- Strong environmental policies
- Expand transit fleet
- Accessible doors and washrooms in businesses
- Safe non-vehicle pathways
- Implement the AODA for all populations
- Mobility for everyone in all seasons

3. What do we want Durham Region to be known for? What is it that sets us apart from other communities?

- Safe, clean environment
- Inclusivity
- Healthy living and innovations
- Less cars on road
- Accessibility
- People-centred
- Promote equity
- Wage equality
- Active programs and sports for youth
- Ensure all determinants of health are supported

4. Correspondence

A) Correspondence from R. Walton, Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services to the Premier of Ontario regarding a Resolution passed by Oshawa Council with respect to Downed Elevators and Municipal Response

A copy of the correspondence from R. Walton, Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services to the Premier of Ontario regarding a Resolution passed by Oshawa Council with respect to Downed Elevators and Municipal Response was provided as Attachment #2 to the Agenda and received for information.

5. Information Items

A) Education Sub-Committee Update

J. Traer advised that the Joint Forum of the Accessibility Advisory Committees is scheduled for October 30, 2019 in the Lower Level Boardroom at Regional Headquarters.

B) Update on the Transit Advisory Committee (TAC)

There was no update provided on the Transit Advisory Committee.

C) Accessibility Coordinator Update

J. Traer provided the following update:

- National Awareness Week was held on the last week of May 2019. She advised that the display in the upper galleria attracted many public citizens. There were a lot of questions asked and the Lunch and Learn sessions were well attended and extremely informative.
- Staff is looking into closed captioning for Council, Standing Committee, and archived meetings as well as maintaining standards for any videos made by the Region.
- Site-Plan projects have been approved and J. Traer will be contacting the site-plan sub-committee to review the list of projects.

6. Discussion Items

A) Process for Identifying People in Formal Meetings

J. Traer stated that at a recent Council meeting, employees of the Region of Durham were requested to either stand or raise their hand to be recognized for their service. J. Traer asked committee members for their thoughts and it was suggested that adding the words “if you are able to” would be appropriate in similar circumstances and at subsequent meetings.

7. Reports

There were no reports to consider.

At this point in the meeting, D. Hume-McKenna left the meeting and quorum was lost.

8. Other Business

This item was not considered due to a lack of quorum.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, September 24, 2019 in Meeting Room 1-A, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 1:00 PM.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:23 PM

M. Roche, Acting Chair
Accessibility Advisory Committee

N. Prasad, Committee Clerk