

Joint Accessibility Committee

MINUTES OF MEETING

January 14, 2009

1:00 p.m.

Present: Councillor Cheryl Murdoch, Councillor Jim Mackie, Councillor Eleanor Harrison (alternate), Debbie Everitt, Rob Young, Angela Van Berlo, HKPR

Regrets: Ross Burk
Miles Roberts
Councillor Bill Davis
Councillor Tom Gardner

County Staff: Tamara Wilbee, County Clerk
Angela Balle, Administrative Assistant

Election of Chair

The Clerk opened the floor for nominations of the Chair at 11:20 am.

J 01/09

Moved by Jim Mackie,

Seconded by Eleanor Harrison;

Be it resolved that that Councillor Cheryl Murdoch be appointed to the position of Chair of the Joint Accessibility Committee for the 2009 term.

Carried

J 02/09

Moved by Rob Young,

Seconded by Angela Van Berlo;

Be it resolved that that Miles Roberts be appointed to the position of Vice-Chair of the Joint Accessibility Committee for the 2009 term.

Carried

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Murdoch called the meeting to order and welcomed members of the Committee.

Adoption of Agenda

J 03/09

Moved by Angela Van Berlo,

Seconded by Councillor Jim Mackie;

Be it resolved that the agenda for the January 14, 2009 - meeting of the Joint Accessibility Committee be adopted as amended.

Carried

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest – None Disclosed.

Acceptance of the Minutes

J 04/09

Moved by Councillor Harrison,

Seconded by Councillor Jim Mackie;

Be it resolved that the minutes of the November 12, 2008 - meeting of the Joint Accessibility Committee be accepted.

Carried

Customer Service Standards

Tamara Wilbee reported that approximately 15 municipal and county staff took the 2 day training workshop facilitated by Accessibility Experts. This training took place in December of 2008 and was a very good exercise in developing draft policies and identifying training needs based on municipal requirements. The County has coordinated with the municipalities for some training to take place on April 20, 2009. Tamara informed the Committee that they will be provided with comprehensive training as well.

Built Environment Update

Angela Balle advised the Committee that Councillor Davis attended the Built Environment meeting held in Toronto on January 9, 2009 and he will report at the next meeting of the Joint Accessibility Committee.

Deputation – None Requested

Correspondence – None Received

Public Awareness/Education

Tamara Wilbee informed the Committee that the County has entered into a service agreement with iCompass Technologies Inc. to provide web based agendas and that when fully implemented the agenda packages will be distributed through this system.

Barrier Aware Programme

Angela Balle reported that she and Miles Roberts attended Highlands East Council on Monday January, 12, 2009 to present the Award of Excellence as a result of the Barrier Aware Assessment carried out at the Highlands East Arena and the Cardiff Community Centre.

No further invitations have been received requesting the assessment of buildings or businesses in the County.

Barrier Aware Assessment – County Administration Building

Councillor Murdoch gave the Committee an overview of the assessment process for the benefit of those Committee members who were unable to participate after the last meeting and commended the assessment as being a good hands-on exercise. Many barriers were identified that can be corrected with ease and other barriers were of a built environment nature and would require alteration of the structure of the building.

New Business

Angela Van Berlo presented a draft letter to send to the Rail Trail Public meeting on behalf of the Joint Accessibility Committee outlining concerns and recommendations for consideration in the Rail Trail's Five Year Review. After some discussion the Committee recommended that the Joint

Accessibility Committee support making part of the Rail Trail accessible to non-motorized users ideally starting at one of the staging areas of the trail and that the letter reflects this recommendation before sending it to the Rail Trail. Tamara Wilbee will make the changes. Councillor Harrison noted that this public meeting is a good venue for producing awareness of accessibility issues.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will take place March 11, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. or at the Call of the Chair.

Adjournment

Chair Murdoch thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

J 05/09

Moved by Angela Van Berlo,

Seconded by Rob Young;

Be it resolved that the meeting of the Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee of January 14, 2009 be hereby adjourned.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Chair Councillor Cheryl Murdoch

Clerk Tamara Wilbee