

Joint Accessibility Committee

MINUTES OF MEETING

March 12, 2008

1:00 p.m.

Present: Vice Chair Bill Davis, Councillor Tom Gardner, Peter McLuskey, Debbie Tripp, Angela Van Berlo, HKPR, Rob Young, Miles Roberts, Ross Burk

Regrets: Chair Councillor Cheryl Murdoch, Councillor Jim Mackie,
Tamara Wilbee, Clerk

County Staff: Angela Balle, Administrative Assistant

Welcome and Introductions

Councillor Davis called the meeting to order at 1:06 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Adoption of Agenda

J07/08

Moved by Rob Young, Seconded by Councillor Tom Gardner

Be it resolved that the agenda for the March 12, 2008 - meeting of the Joint Accessibility Committee be adopted as circulated.

Carried

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest – None disclosed.

Acceptance of the Minutes

J08/08

Moved by Peter McLuskey, Seconded by Miles Roberts

Be it resolved that the minutes of the January 09, 2008 - meeting of the Joint Accessibility Committee be accepted.

Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

Councillor Davis reported that he contacted the Rails End Gallery and has talked with peers at the Municipality of Dysart et al in regards to the ramp closure at the gallery. There has been a rubber matting shown that may be acceptable to place on the ramp to solve the problem, the issue is being monitored by the Rails End Gallery and the Municipality of Dysart et al. Councillor Davis, Miles Roberts and Rob Young, will be making arrangements to make a more detailed inspection when the ramp becomes more accessible and weather permits.

Built Environment Update

Councillor Davis reported that the next meeting of the Built Environment Committee is on March 20, 2008 in Toronto. Councillor Davis hoped to bring back a report to the Committee that solidifies the mandate and recommendations of the Built Environment Committee and an update on pending changes to have more persons with disabilities appointed to the Provincial Board where it was observed that there were not enough persons with disabilities represented. Councillor Davis advised the Committee that the recommendations of the Built Environment Committee may be presented to the Provincial Board as early as August, 2008.

Rob Young queried Councillor Davis as to whether there would be a opportunity for public input on renovations, upgrades and new buildings before the Municipality approves the changes. Councillor Davis advised that the Municipalities make their decisions as per the Ontario Building Code and with the new legislations pertaining to barriers, the language and latitude of the OBC may allow Municipal some flexibility in making the final decisions on existing structures.

Deputation – None Requested

Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated with the agenda at the request of Angela Van Berlo to inform the Committee that U-Links had arranged a meeting to focus on the Social Determinants of Health facing the area and as the Joint Accessibility Committee was not identified as an agency that addresses the Social Determinants asked that the Joint Accessibility Committee be included on this list. Councillor Davis asked if Ms. Van Berlo would be representing the Committee at upcoming meetings of this organization and though she is not able to attend the next scheduled meeting, she would attend when her schedule allow and share the outcomes of the meeting with the committee.

Public Awareness / Education

Barrier Aware Program Status Update

New flip booklets created for the Barrier Aware Program were passed around by Angela Van Berlo as part of the Barrier Aware information that would be available at public display locations throughout the County. Angela Van Berlo reported that a Barrier Aware Assessment was carried out at the IGA in Haliburton and that a certificate will be issued. There were a few observations made that could further enhance accessibility and they will be included as comments in the certificate package. Rob Young suggested that another recommendation that could be added to the Barrier Aware Summary made to grocery stores might be the possibility of having seats available for people who cannot walk, due to their disability, the whole store without having a rest period.

Home Show Booth

Councillor Davis reported to the Committee that the Joint Accessibility booth at this year's Haliburton Home Show will be along side the other County of Haliburton displays as he has been assured that there will be a ramp in place to make the upstairs accessible. Councillor Davis suggested that new material be sought for distribution at the booth and there may be material made available to the Committee by the Ontario Disabilities Act Committee. It was suggested that the names of businesses who have participated in the Barrier Aware Program be displayed. The Committee also needs to give thought to a schedule for manning the Booth at this years show.

2008 Accessibility Plan Update

The Committee was presented with a revised draft layout of that portion of the Accessibility Plan which identifies the barriers and solutions section.

Other Issues Raised by Individual Committee Members

A copy of the budget report prepared by the Treasurer of the County, and presented to Council, was distributed to the Committee for their information. It was noted that Council has not passed the budget as yet. Peter McLuskey asked if there could be a breakdown available from each Municipality providing a general outline on expenditures allocated to accessibility upgrades and projects in order to have the amounts tracked for future use. Councillor Gardner has requested this information from Algonquin Highlands.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will take place May 14, 2008 at 1:00 pm.

Adjournment

Councillor Davis thanked everyone for attending the meeting and iterated that he would have more of a schematic to bring back from the Built Environment Committee meeting on March 20, 2008 and may include any amendments to the mandate and structure of the process as a whole.

J09/08

Moved by Ross Burk, Seconded by Peter McLuskey;

Be it resolved that the meeting of the Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee of March 12, 2008 be hereby adjourned.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 1:51 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk

