

# Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee

## MINUTES OF MEETING

March 14, 2007

10:30 p.m.

**Present:** Councillor Jim Mackie, Councillor Bill Davis, Councillor Cheryl Murdoch, Councillor Tom Gardner, Peter McLuskey, Miles Roberts, Debbie Tripp, Rob Young (via poly-com), Angela Andrews, HKPR

**Support Persons:** Tamara Williams, County Clerk  
Angela Balle, Administrative Assistant

### Appointment of Chairperson

The Clerk called for nominations for the position of Chair and Vice-Chair for the 2007 calendar year.

*Moved by Councillor Jim Mackie, Seconded by Councillor Tom Gardner;*

***Be it resolved that Councillor Murdoch hold position of Chairperson and the Councillor Bill Davis hold the position of Vice-Chairperson.***

*Carried*

### Adoption of Agenda

*Moved by Miles Roberts, Seconded by Councillor Tom Gardner;*

***Be it resolved that the agenda for the March 14, 2007 meeting of the Joint Accessibility Committee be adopted as circulated.***

*Carried*

### Completion of the Composition of the 2007 Joint Accessibility Committee

Due to email difficulties, Ross Burke was not able to submit an expression of interest for ongoing participation on this Committee, but has since requested that he be considered as a public representative. This will ensure that the quorum consisting of the majority being persons living with a disability is met. A recommendation will be forwarded to County Council to amend the appointment by-law.

*Moved by Councillor Bill Davis, Seconded by Miles Roberts*

***Be it resolved that Ross Burke be appointed a member of this 2007 Joint Accessibility Committee.***

*Carried*

### Acceptance of Minutes

*Moved by Councillor Bill Davis, Seconded by Miles Roberts*

***Be it resolved that the Minutes of the October 10, 2006-meeting of the Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee be accepted as amended.***

*Carried*

## **Business Arising from the Previous Minutes**

### Retrofitting Traffic Lights within County and Upgrading with Accessibility Warning Signals

In the fall of 2006, the Committee requested a report on the options and costs available for traffic signal lights adapted for the visually impaired. The County Engineering Services Manager prepared a report which was circulated to the Committee. As there are a minimal number of lights owned by the County and/or Municipalities, it was suggested that the Ministry of Transportation be contacted to determine if they are aware of the barrier and to enquire as to whether or not they would consider alterations to the existing traffic signals.

The report prepared by the County of Haliburton Engineering Department will be re-circulated to all committee members for their records.

### 4Cs Building - Haliburton

It was reported that the entrance ramp had been addressed at the 4Cs building in Haliburton. Councillor Davis agreed to visit the building with Miles Roberts in order to assess the workmanship of the repairs and installation and report back to the Committee.

## **Public Awareness / Education Campaign**

### Business Aware Program

The grant application to the HCDP for funding of the Business Aware Program has been approved and the County has contributed the agreed upon portion for this partnership. The program will be similar to the Eat Smart Campaign that is currently run by the Health Unit by acknowledging businesses who implement Barrier Free features in their business. The target date for implementation of the program is anticipated to be near the end of March. It was suggested that the program and educational materials be taken to the Haliburton Home Show for additional exposure. Rob Young agreed to look into the possibility of arranging space for this show.

### Barrier Free Design Flyer

The Barrier Free Residential Design flyer along with the draft Sensitivity brochure will be distributed to all members of the Committee for final review before printing and distribution.

## **Building and Site Plan Review – No report**

### **2007 Accessibility Budget Update**

There is a proposed amount of \$5,000.00 in the County Budget for Accessibility costs related to training and committee expenses.

It was noted that there have been several initiatives implemented in the past that effectively remove barriers to persons with disabilities. However, much of the cost associated with these projects (such as sidewalk repair) would not be allocated within an Accessibility budget, but would more likely fall within the general roads budget.

Councillors agreed that it would be a good idea to define all repairs and upgrades in the respective communities in order to allow the public to see what has been accomplished by the local government in an effort to comply with the AODA.

## **Other Issues Raised by Individual Committee Members**

### Public Building Barriers

Rob Young had concerns about the ramp railing at the S.G.Nesbitt Community Centre and was informed by Councillor Murdoch that the issue is being addressed in the Minden Hills draft Budget.

### County/Municipal Roads Accessibility

Rob Young has contacted the Ministry of Transportation with a concern regarding access to sidewalks at the intersection of South Water Street and Highway 35. He noted that the Ministry is anxious to address his concerns and will be working with him in this regard.

Peter McLuskey suggested that his interpretation of the AODA is that local governments will be required to ensure that roads are to become barrier free by 2025. Councillor Davis noted that the requirements and standards of the Ministry of Transportation are based on the volume of traffic and that repairs and maintenance must fall within these standards.

It was agreed that roads departments could be encouraged to consider accessibility features during reconstruction projects over the future years.

### Handicap Parking Infractions – Delivery Trucks

Peter McLuskey reported that delivery trucks are using disabled parking spaces during pick ups from local offices.

It was noted that most delivery couriers are on a predictable schedule and an effort could be made to enforce the parking by-laws having the by-law enforcement officer on sight during these time periods if there was an issue at any particular location.

### **Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting will take place Tuesday, May 1, 2007.

### **Adjournment**

*Moved by Angela Andrews, Seconded by Councillor Bill Davis;*

***Be it resolved that the meeting of the Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee of March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007 be hereby adjourned.***

*Carried*

The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

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Chairman

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Clerk