

Joint Accessibility Committee

MINUTES OF MEETING

September 12, 2007

1:00 p.m.

Present: Councillor Bill Davis, Councillor Tom Gardner, Peter McLuskey, Debbie Tripp, Rob Young, Ross Burk, Miles Roberts

Regrets: Councillor Cheryl Murdoch, Councillor Jim Mackie, Angela Andrews, HKPR

Support Persons: Tamara Wilbee, County Clerk
Angela Balle, Administrative Assistant

Vice Chairman, Davis welcomed all to the meeting.

Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Tom Gardner, Seconded by Peter McLuskey;

Be it resolved that the agenda for the September 12, 2007 meeting of the Joint Accessibility Committee be adopted as circulated.

Carried

Acceptance of Minutes

Moved by Peter McLuskey, Seconded by Rob Young;

Be it resolved that the Minutes of the July 11, 2007-meeting of the Joint Accessibility Committee be accepted.

Carried

Deputation – None Requested

Public Awareness / Education

Business Aware Program

No report

Sensitivity Awareness Brochure

The Sensitivity flyer has been sent to the four Municipalities for distribution/display and will be going to the Haliburton County Library Administrative Centre in Haliburton for distribution to all the library branches.

Traffic Signals for the Visually Impaired - CNIB

An inquiry has been sent to the Canadian National Institute for the Blind requesting a summary total of the clientele within the boundaries of Haliburton County so that the Joint Accessibility Committee has factual information when speaking to the issue of traffic signals at various locations in the County. The CNIB have not, as yet, responded to the inquiry.

2007-2008 Accessibility Plan Update

The Annual Plan Update has been circulated to the Committee and all Municipalities. Some new objectives have been added to the List of Objectives in Section 4 which will be met in the coming year. Section 7 has been updated apart from Algonquin Highlands who have not yet submitted their updates but have indicated that they will do so before the County Council meeting on September 26, 2007. Few changes to content have needed to be made and the Committee will continue to monitor new concerns and issues as presented to them. It was noted the Ontarians with Disabilities Act of 2001, though not yet repealed by Order of the Minister, will be replaced by the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act of 2004 and that by this committee monitoring the needs of the Municipalities and the public, the transition period to comply with the new Act will be much easier to facilitate when the plan is adopted by the Government of Ontario. Councillor Davis noted all Municipalities are making an effort to comply with the Act and though progress may not be immediately tangible or up to the expectations of the public, significant strides have been made to conform to the Act as budget and time allows.

Moved by Deb Tripp, Seconded by Councillor Tom Gardner;

Be it resolved that the 2007-2008 Accessibility Plan Update be presented for approval to Haliburton County Council at their meeting on September 26, 2007 in order to submit to the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario on September 30, 2007.

Carried

Building and Site Plan Review

No Report

Other Issues Raised by Individual Committee Members

Ross Burk raised the subject of the Haliburton Curling Club renovations having no accessibility to the upper floor of the building. Councillor Davis addressed this concern with information that the Ontario Building Code does not require accessibility to the entire facility but that only the front door of the building be accessible. Though this is the case, there has been a shaft constructed in the building for the future installation of a lift when fund raising has been sufficient to purchase the lift and, that there is a construction layout design for a ramp between the arena and curling club that would give accessibility to the upper floor until such time as the lift can be installed. Councillor Davis also noted that with renovations, sometimes the integrity of the original structure/construction of the existing buildings make renovations for accessibility a problem.

The Clerk will extend invitations to the Chief Building Officials of each Municipality to attend the November meeting of the Joint Accessibility Committee in order to clarify aspects of the Ontario Building Code as it applies to accessibility and our current barrier removal plan.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will take place November 14, 2007 at 1:00 pm

Adjournment

Moved by Peter McLuskey, Seconded by Ross Burk;

Be it resolved that the meeting of the Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee of September 12, 2007 be hereby adjourned.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk