



TOWN OF COLLINGWOOD

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 17, 2024, 2:00 p.m.

FreeSchools World Literacy Community Room and by Videoconference
Collingwood Public Library, First Floor, 55 Ste. Marie Street, Collingwood

Members Present: Leslie Bolt, Chair
Heather Grasman, Vice-Chair
Kathryn Bloomfield
Casey Morrison
Lana Roman

Members Absent: Gina Northcott
Hannah Keenie

Staff Present: Elaine Kelly, Coordinator, Community Engagement and Learning
Service
Jennifer Parker, Acting Manager
Jenny Haines, Administrative Coordinator

Others: Sandy Falcon, Community Transportation Coordinator
Lindsay Ayers, Manager Planning

1. Call of Council to Order

Vice-Chair Grasman called the Accessibility Advisory Committee to order at 2:00 p.m. Vice-Chair Grasman moved to deal with agenda item 6.1 Zoning By-law Update Committee Feedback Session - The Planning Partnership as the first order of business.

2. Deputations

2.1 Zoning By-law Update Committee Feedback Session - The Planning Partnership

Manager Ayers welcomed Joe Nethery from Nethery Planning to the meeting and noted that Town has retained the consulting team to assist in updating the Town's Zoning By-law which is a regulatory tool that controls the use of land within the community. Manager Ayers provided details on upcoming community engagement sessions and confirmed that all

information related to the Town's Zoning By-law update will be available on the Town's Engage webpage.

Joe Nethery briefed the Committee on the Zoning By-law Update noting that five discussion papers have been prepared to assist with stakeholder engagement and to assist in preparing the By-law update. Joe Nethery provided a high-level review of the five discussion papers noting the purpose and key areas of focus for each.

Joe Nethery took comments and answered questions from Committee providing clarification that the Committee can provide input if they have thoughts beyond this meeting and that the consultants are taking comments at an individual level or via the group. Joe Nethery confirmed that comments can be submitted via the Town's Engage webpage. Manager Ayers noted the deadline for comments to be submitted is November 15.

Manager Ayers and Joe Nethery left the meeting at this time.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

AAC-013-2024

Moved by: Leslie Bolt

Seconded by: Casey Morrison

THAT the content of the Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda for October 17, 2024 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

None.

5. Adoption of Minutes

AAC-014-2024

Moved by: Casey Morrison

Seconded by: Leslie Bolt

Recommendation: THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee held on September 19, 2024 be adopted as presented and forwarded to Council for receipt at its next regular meeting.

CARRIED

6. Business Arising from the Previous Meeting

There were no comments from Committee regarding the previous meeting.

7. Reports

7.1 Barrier Complaint Form – Swimming Lessons

Acting Manager Parker briefed the Committee on a barrier complaint form received regarding the cancellation of one of the 30 minute swimming lessons in a program at Centennial Pool. Acting Manager Parker explained that the lesson was an inclusive and adaptive swimming program and that it was cancelled after registrations were confirmed. Acting Manager Parker noted that the lessons were cancelled due to staffing constraints, but that the removal of these lessons has had an impact on individuals who registered for the program.

Acting Manager Parker confirmed that although no physical solution has been met and the lessons are still not being offered to those previously registered, that a conversation has begun around the complaint with insight on how the cancellation of the program has resulted in concerns being raised by a patron.

Member Roman identified herself as the individual who submitted the barrier complaint form and provided the Committee with insight on how the cancellation of this particular swimming lesson impacts families of children who are unable to participate in other formal recreational activities.

Member Roman also noted that navigating the website to find the barrier complain form was complicated and noted concern that anything on-line that requires multiple steps to access could be challenging for some. Member Roman suggested that the form provide multiple choice options to assist people who don't have the ability to write out their feedback but also a section where a person could use their own words to provide their feedback.

Acting Manager Parker confirmed that the Recreation Department has been made aware of the impact that cancelling the program.

The Committee discussed the Town's website and concerns regarding the accessibility of the Barrier Feedback Form and Council meeting agendas. The Committee discussed the use of icons with words underneath on the Barrier Feedback Form as a way to assist people in communicating and providing feedback. Acting Manager Parker confirmed that she would revisit the form and review it's accessibility with a goal to make it more user friendly.

8. Other Business

8.1 Multi-Year Strategic Plan Areas of Focus

Member Bloomfield joined the meeting at this time.

Transportation - Accessible Taxi Survey Communication

Community Transportation Coordinator Falcon confirmed that the Accessible Taxi Survey has been launched and the deadline for submissions is October 18. Community Transportation Coordinator Falcon confirmed that there has been a positive response on-line and that she is looking forward to reviewing the data when it is collected.

Community Transportation Coordinator Falcon noted that she is meeting with Ace Taxi regarding the contract they have with the Town in order to get a fulsome understanding of the contract details. Community Transportation Coordinator Falcon confirmed that she is aware that the changes in service by Ace Taxi have impacted everyone who uses their services and although she is unaware of what the outcome of the meeting will be, she will keep the Committee updated.

Community Transportation Coordinator Falcon noted that Staff are aware of the impact that the change in service has caused, noting that there is now a rise in conventional transit use and delays in schedule times due to the on-boarding and off-boarding of mobility devices.

Acting Manager Parker confirmed that the survey is available on the Town's Engage webpage and that she shared direct links with Committee members.

Communications

Acting Manager Parker noted that Staff are working on the Town's new website in compliance with AODA regulations. Acting Manager Parker noted that the Committee will be part of the workflow to test the new website, navigate and share feedback with the Communications Team.

Public Spaces - Centennial Aquatic Centre Changeroom Lift

Acting Manager Parker noted that a service interruption notice has been posted at Centennial Pool as the lift in the universal change room is out of order. Acting Manager Parker confirmed that a new lift has been purchased.

Acting Manager Parker answered questions from Committee members regarding the status of the lift used to get patrons in and out of the large pool confirming that the lift has been repaired and is fully operational.

8.2 Community Engagement / Awareness

Acting Manager Parker thanked Member Roman for her suggestion to screen the movie "Out of My Mind" noting that the movie has not yet been released and she cannot obtain the rights for a viewing due to copyright purposes at this time. Acting Manager Parker confirmed that she will continue to look into obtaining the rights to screen the movie, noting that it will likely not be shown until the new year.

The Committee discussed locations where the movie can be played, noting the Simcoe Street Theater, Community Room B&C at the Library and the Cineplex. Acting Manager Parker noted that a letter could be drafted from Committee with request to use the Cineplex space for this event.

Acting Manager Parker noted that in addition to screening the movie, she would like to take the opportunity to have discussions and conversations regarding the work of the Accessibility Advisory Committee and asked Committee to provide their thoughts and ideas on this event.

Committee members discussed the relevance of the movie to real-day scenarios that children experience at school. Committee members discussed inviting schools to watch the movie and Acting Manager Parker confirmed she would inquire, noting the connection with the school board and various approvals required.

The Committee agreed that planning the screening of the movie in the new year is a realistic goal and suggestions were brought forward on ways to include community partners such as E3, Breaking Down Barriers and Oscars Place as well possibly linking this event with National AccessAbility Week. Acting Manager Parker noted the engagement piece within the multi-year strategic plan and the importance of engaging the community. The Committee discussed having a question & answer period either before or after the film and bringing ideas and feedback back to Council for their knowledge and consideration.

8.3 Town Projects

Acting Manager Parker noted that Council will be considering the 2025 Budget and that she will keep the Committee apprised on dates and opportunities to provide feedback. Acting Manager Parker noted that the budget document will be AODA compliant meeting all the WCAG 2.0 requirements for the first time.

8.4 Collaboration & Partnerships

Acting Manager Parker noted that the Children's Treatment Network will be hosting their Halloween Event on October 25 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the YMCA.

8.5 Other Business

8.5.1 2025 Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Dates - For Information

The Committee reviewed the 2025 schedule with attention brought to the meetings beginning at 2:00 p.m.

9. Correspondence

None.

10. Public Delegation(s) (Maximum 5 Minutes per Delegation)

None.

11. Next Meeting

12. Adjournment

Moved by: Chair Bolt

THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting be hereby adjourned at 3:10 p.m. **CARRIED.**

Chair