Present: Sandi Bell, Darlene Burkett, Janice Ferguson, Anthony Haynes, Brian Lane, Aznive Mallett, Meg Metson, Kim Nolan, Tim Nolan, Marie Pennacchietti, Robert Semkow, Mary Smithson, Marlene Thomas, Gay Walton

Regrets: Pat Cameron, Carol Sheppard, Kimberly Walker

Also Present: Maxine Carter, Jane Lee, Carolyn Bish – Customer Service, Access & Equity Division, Corporate Services

Addition to Agenda:

i) CONSENT ITEM: ATS Performance Report – December 2005

1. INTRODUCTION and WELCOME TO NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Chair welcomed 6 new members to the Committee – Sandi Bell, Aznive Mallett, Meg Metson, Kim Nolan, Robert Semkow and Marlene Thomas. Introductions were made.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Jane Lee reviewed what would constitute a “conflict”. A copy of the Act will be provided.

None declared.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of January 10, 2006

(Pennacchietti/Walton)

That the minutes of the January 10, 2006 meeting of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities be approved as circulated. CARRIED.

4. CONSENT ITEMS (for information only):
Maxine Carter provided a brief explanation of “consent items”.

4.1 Minutes of Transportation Subcommittee – January 3, 2006

(Walton/Haynes)
That the January 3, 2006 minutes of the Transportation Subcommittee be received for information. CARRIED.

4.2 ATS Performance Report – December 2005

Tim Nolan advised that this report is issued quarterly for information. It was requested that this item be added to the March agenda for discussion.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Letter from Hamilton Police Services Board dated November 18, 2005 re Police Clearances Release of Information

Tim Nolan provided background information and the history regarding this item. Discussion by the committee followed and comments noted included:
- copy of letter be sent to Human Rights Commission
- violation of charter
- right to privacy vs. right to know
- collect information but not publish
- Hamilton not considered “best practice”
- consequences of not releasing this information
- seek legal opinion
- send letter voicing displeasure
- invite police to a future meeting

(Thomas/Pennacchietti)
Further to the November 18, 2005 letter from Hamilton Police Service Board re Police Clearances Release of Information, the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities recommends that:
  a) a response to the letter be sent to Police Chief Brian Mullan stating the Committee’s displeasure;
  b) a copy of the letter be sent to the Human Rights Commission
  c) police service staff receive formal sensitivity training toward persons with disabilities; and
  d) a request to Council for the City of Hamilton to seek legal opinion on this matter and forward that opinion back to the Committee.

Further discussion followed.

(Bell/Smithson)
That the above motion regarding the letter from Hamilton Police Service Board be tabled to the March 2006 meeting of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities. CARRIED.
That a short term working group be established to gather information and report back to the full committee of the findings at the April 2006 meeting of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities. **CARRIED.**

The following committee members volunteered to be part of this short term working group:

- Brian Lane
- Marie Pennacchietti
- Marlene Thomas
- Sandi Bell
- Gay Walton
- Darlene Burkett
- Aznive Mallet (lead)

**5.2 Follow up – ACPD Presentation re Accessible Transportation Services Review**

Tim Nolan advised that a review of DARTS & ATS was being conducted and stakeholders had been invited to present. Members attending on behalf of the ACPD were Tim Nolan, Gay Walton and Darlene Burkett.

Jane Lee provided some background on the review committee.

**5.3 Update on Renovation of Ancaster Library / Municipal Service Centre (M. Carter)**

Item deferred to March 2006 meeting.

**5.4 Attendance**

The Chair asked that members notify staff if unable to attend a meeting and explained the need for commitment by members. He also issued a reminder of the motion passed by Council regarding missing 3 consecutive meetings.

Sandi Bell inquired about teleconferencing equipment. Staff is investigating.

**5.5 Crosswalk Signals / Street Lights (brochure attached)**

Item deferred to March 2006 meeting.

**5.6 Establishment of Subcommittees**

- **5.6.1 Transportation**
- **5.6.2 Customer Service**
- **5.6.3 Built Environment**

Item deferred to March 2006 meeting.

**5.7 Vice-chair Roster - Revision**

The Chair updated the committee on the history of the “rotating vice-chair” to the new members and the role of the ACPD beyond the term of Council. A copy of
the vice-chair roster was distributed with the agenda package.

It was agreed by the committee that the role of the vice-chair will be to act as a timekeeper on issues that go on for longer periods of time.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Request for quarterly financial report.

7. INFORMATION ITEM

Marie P. informed the committee that the Mental Health Rights Coalition is hosting a Housing Forum with questions and answers for mental health consumers on Thursday, March 16, 2006 at the Aboriginal Centre, 2nd Floor, 678 Main Street East from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.