Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities
MINUTES
4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, September 8, 2009
Committee Room 207
Hamilton Convention Centre
One Summer’s Lane

Present: T. Nolan (Chair)
Councillor B. Morelli
D. Burkett, R. Cameron, B. Lane, A. Mallett, T. Manzuk, K. Nolan, R. Semkow, M. Smithson

Absent with Regrets: P. Cameron, F. Chesney, S. Derkach, B. Helwig, T. Wallis

Also Present: M. Carter, M. Nuyaba, Customer Service, Access & Equity
M. Meyer, City Clerk’s Office

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:

The meeting was called to order at 4:14 p.m.

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

There were no changes to the agenda.

On a motion (R. Cameron/K. Nolan), the agenda was approved as presented.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.
(c) MINUTES (Item 3)

(i) Minutes of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities meeting held on August 11, 2009 (Item 3.1)

(B. Semkow/A. Mallett)
That the minutes of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities meeting held on August 11, 2009 be approved.
CARRIED

(e) SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES (Item 5)

(i) Transportation Sub-Committee update from the meeting held on September 1, 2009 (Item 5.1)

On a motion (A. Mallett/K. Nolan), this item was deferred to the October ACPD meeting.

(ii) Customer Service Subcommittee

Mary Smithson provided a verbal update of a tour that some Committee members made of Whitehern. She outlined several improvements that could be made to make the tours more accessible. These included but were not limited to the following:

- The tour guide should have a microphone.
- In the information provided, the pictures were small and there should be more contrast in the printed portion.
- The stairs to the second floor were narrow.
- The stable contains the accessible washrooms but there is a lip on the entrance which should have a ramp.
- There could be a video in the stable that shows pictures of the interior of Whitehern for those who cannot access it.
- The bench at the top of the stairs is too small and low.
- Staff were surprised that the new Customer Service Standards were going to be in force on January 1, 2010.
- It is staff’s intention to come back with an action plan respecting these items.
- Staff from Whitehern will be attending the accessibility resource fair.
- The Customer Service Subcommittee is going to take a tour of another museum and then submit recommendations respecting customer service standards in museums in Hamilton.
- Members of the Built Environment Subcommittee requested that, once the list is compiled, any joint items be forwarded to them.
On a motion (M. Smithson/B. Semkow), the update was received.

(iii) Built Environment Subcommittee (Item 5.3)

Darlene Burkett advised that, as the meeting was cancelled, there was nothing to report.

(f) Correspondence from AMO Respecting the Draft Built Environment Standard (Item 6.1)

Committee discussed options for getting a response back to Council in time to meet the Ministry’s deadlines for comments.

(R. Cameron/K. Nolan)
That comments respecting the Draft Built Environment Standard be submitted by e-mail to Maxine Carter, Access and Equity Coordinator, by September 24, 2009 and that the e-mail comments be compiled for submission to the October 13, 2009 Committee of the Whole meeting.

CARRIED

(g) 2009 Accessibility Plan and Consultations – Subcommittees (Item 6.2)

Maxine Carter, Access and Equity Coordinator, advised that she was waiting for some additional information and, once received, will mail the Accessibility Plan out to Committee members. She further advised that the September 30, 2009 deadline would not be met, but that the plan is almost complete. “Activities Planned” should go on the ACPD agenda as a standing item, beginning in October.

(h) Correspondence from Mary Smithson Respecting the Winona Shopping Centre (Item 6.3)

Mary Smithson advised that, as the zoning changes and Official Plan Amendment for this complex have been appealed at the Ontario Municipal Board, this issue is not as imminent, but this is an opportunity to have some of the Barrier-Free Guidelines used to address issues such as the width of sidewalks, door entrances, and lighting.

Chair Nolan advised that the Committee had previously discussed imposing the Barrier-Free Guidelines on all new constructions, but staff reported back that this could not be done.
Some discussion ensued, including but not limited to the following:

- Barrier-Free Guidelines should be a requirement attached to receipt of government money.
- People in private sector unhappy that they would go through the expense of developing buildings that are not deemed accessible.
- The Built Environment Standards may address some of these issues.
- ACPD should put together a list of accessibility standards and bring them forward to Council.
- Should research the practices of other municipalities.
- Committee can provide input into site plan.
- This should be referred to the Built Environment Subcommittee.

Maxine Carter, Access and Equity Coordinator, suggested that the Built Environment Subcommittee meet with the developer to discuss accessibility issues, as by the time the site plan is created, it will be too late to make changes.

(D. Burkett/M. Smithson)
That the correspondence from Mary Smithson respecting the Winona Shopping Centre and the issue of site plans be referred to the Built Environment Subcommittee for report back to the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities.

CARRIED

The Clerk was directed to find out at what stage the OMB appeal is.

(i) Correspondence from Mary Smithson Respecting HSR Survey (Item 6.4)

(M. Smithson/A. Mallett)
That the correspondence from Mary Smithson respecting HSR Survey be referred to Transportation Subcommittee for discussion and report back to the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities.

CARRIED

(j) Appointment of Persons to the Roundabout Working Group (Item 6.5)

(A. Mallett/K. Nolan)
That the following persons be appointed to the Roundabout Working Group:
(i) Roger Wayne-Cameron
(ii) Darlene Burkett

CARRIED
(k) **Comments from Brian Lane Respecting Roundabouts (Added Item 6.6)**

*(T. Manzuk/R. Cameron)*

That the comments from Brian Lane respecting Roundabouts be received and referred to the Roundabout Working Group.

**CARRIED**

Chair Nolan requested that staff find the comments from the meeting at the Ancaster roundabout and forward them to the Roundabout Working Group as well.

(l) **NEW BUSINESS (Item 7)**

None.

(m) **ADJOURNMENT (Item 8)**

*(K. Nolan/B. Semkow)*

The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Nolan, Chair  
Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities

Mary-Ann Meyer  
Legislative Assistant  
September 8, 2009