The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

   Jane Lee called the meeting to order and welcomed and thanked everyone for their attendance. Introductions were done by all.

   Ms. Lee outlined the items of business for the Committee at this meeting, including giving an overview of the legislation under which this Committee meets, and details respecting the work which needs to be done in terms of supporting the city’s initiatives. Also on the agenda is the appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair, which will be done at the end of the meeting.

   Ms. Lee also introduced Marjorie Walker, Advisor, Constituent Relations and Outreach, from the Mayor’s Office, who will be briefing the Mayor and his staff with respect to the Committee’s initiatives.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

   None declared.
3. **MINUTES OF MEETING:**

(Semkow/Lane)
That the minutes of the August 7, 2007 meeting of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities be approved as presented. CARRIED

4. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

4.1 **Overview of ODA and AODA**
4.2 **Overview of Provincial Standards**

Jane Lee distributed a power point presentation outlining the Ontarians with Disabilities Act (ODA), including what it is, what should the ODA Plan cover, key definitions, duties of Municipalities, what the Plan must include, duties of the Advisory Committee which are mandatory, duties of the Advisory Committee, other provisions e.g., purchasing, public transportation; and complimentary amendments to other Acts.

The ODA is provincial legislation which was passed in 2001 and is the Province’s first attempt to improve accessibility and opportunity for persons with disabilities.

Comments during discussion of this issue included, but are not limited to:

- Members of the Committee need to bring “lived” experiences, or experiences of people in the community who have disabilities, both visible and invisible
- Barriers faced in the provision of City services – will be examining the way services are being provided
- This Committee would not be necessary if people did not discriminate toward people with disabilities; get society to stop people with prejudices
- MUSH sector – Municipalities, Universities, School boards, Hospitals

AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act)

The Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) is an Act that was passed in 2005, and which is also going to apply to both public and private sectors.

The presentation outlined what does the AODA mean, and what’s new for 2008.

The City has two years from January 1, 2008 to develop a plan for implementing the Customer Service Standard.

Comments during discussion of this issue included, but are not limited to:

- Important to stay focused on the “big picture”
- People are embarrassed to identify an issue; important not to think that things are insignificant; even if minor, also good to raise certain issues which will bring in other departments – able to see attitudes
 Concern expressed with respect to the critical shortage of physicians – may be an item for future discussion

Important to recognize that when it comes to dealing with accessibility plans, the City is an extremely large bureaucracy and it is important that the work of the ACPD is just part of the continuum, and will be on-going for a long time

Staff advised that there are three sub-committees of the ACPD, and that members may select their areas of interest. The three sub-committees are Customer Service, Transportation and Built Environment. There are also other committees established from time to time which are more task oriented, and volunteers will be requested to work on these issues and report back.

Representatives of the ACPD also sit on the Provincial Gas Tax Transit Master Plan Steering Committee and on the Eligibility Review Steering Committee of DARTS.

4.3 Overview of City of Hamilton Accessibility Plan

Maxine Carter distributed the 2007 Accessibility Plan as prepared by the ACPD, stating that this plan will be used over the next year to track what activities have been done. The Committee has done an enormous amount of work, and how things have changed in the organization is a credit to the ACPD pushing to see things happen and making decisions on things that should be done.

Page 16 of the report addresses what consultation activities have taken place in the current year for the 46 consultation activities. These consultations will turn into activities for further follow up in 2007-08.

Brian Lane requested a compilation of all recommendations/motions made by the ACPD over the past three years for information purposes only. It was suggested that once this list has been compiled, that a sub-committee could be established to then categorize each recommendation/motion.

Tim Nolan advised that the work of compiling this information is currently underway.

At the Committee’s request, Maxine will forward the link with all plans to the members of the ACPD.

4.4 Subcommittee Selection

The following members volunteered for the following Sub-Committees:

(a) Transportation:

Kim Nolan, Robert Semkow, Marlene Thomas, Tim Nolan
(b) Customer Service:

Mary Smithson, Bob Helwig

(c) Built Environment:

Darlene Burkett, Roger Wayne-Cameron, Pat Cameron, Elizabeth Wagner, Brian Lane, Fran Chesney

(Nolan/Wagner)

That Marlene Osborne be appointed at the ACPD representative on the Provincial Gas Tax Transit Master Plan Steering Committee. CARRIED

Members were advised that they could serve on any of the sub-committees, should they wish to do so at a later date.

4.5 2008 Budget/Business Plan (draft attached)

Jane Lee advised that a deadline for the submission of a budget has not yet been determined; however, the ACPD has a budget of $3500, including $1500 for incidental costs and $2000 for committee purposes i.e., facilitator, conference attendance, etc. Council approved $3500 for all advisory committees for 2007.

The Committee also agreed that any additional expenses that may be incurred due to the change of location of the meetings i.e., FM system, street noise reduction, accessibility from the elevator at the Convention Centre, etc., should not be borne from the ACPD’s budget but rather, should be done at a cost to the City.

The following are some of the issues/difficulties experienced by the members with the change of location:

- FM system
- Difficulty hearing due to street noise
- Difficult for motorized scooters; suggest from elevator door to meeting room
- Parking costs

4.6 Meeting Date & Time

Jane Lee advised that the Committee meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

For future consideration: start meetings at 3:30 p.m. rather than 4:00 p.m., or continue meetings until 6:30 rather than 6:00 p.m. to allow for additional 30 minutes to deal with agenda items.
Item for future agenda: Placement of Waste Containers – staff advised that a policy is being put together by the Waste Division as a result of complaints being received with respect to the location(s) of containers on sidewalks and no access. The Waste Division has put together a policy for staff and contractors on how to pick up and place the containers back so that the containers have a longer life and people are not having to manoeuvre their way around green/blue boxes. The Committee asked if the policy includes commercial waste containers. Staff to check into this.

Future agenda item: snow removal – staff to provide information i.e., how it works/process, phone numbers, link to “Snow Angels” program.

4.7 November 13, 2007 ACPD Meeting

As the ACPD had input into the renovations at the Ancaster Municipal Service Centre, the next meeting of the ACPD will be held at that location (300 Wilson Street). Staff is also arranging for the Committee to have a tour of the round-a-bout. Once final arrangements have been made, the information will be communicated to the Committee.

4.8 Selection of Chair and Vice-Chair

(K.Nolan/Thomas)
That Tim Nolan be nominated as Chair.

(Bell/Burkett)
That Aznive Mallett be nominated as Chair.

(Lane/R-W Cameron)
That Marlene Thomas be nominated as Chair.

Tim Nolan and Marlene Thomas both indicated their willingness to stand as nominated.

In the absence of Aznive Mallett, the appointment of a Chair and Vice Chair for the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities was tabled to the November 13, 2007 meeting of the Committee.

5. ADJOURNMENT

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.