Present: T. Nolan (Chair) F. Chesney (Vice Chair) Councillor B. Morelli T. Wallis, K. Nolan, R. Semkow, K. Nolan R. Cameron, M. Smithson, P. Cameron, T. Manzuk, S. Derkach, A. Mallett

Absent with Regrets: M. Thomas, D. Burkett, B. Helwig


FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:

The meeting was called to order at 4:22 p.m. by Chair Nolan.

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Clerk advised of the following changes to the agenda.

(i) That a Discussion on the need to email items in an accessible format be added as Item 6.3 on the Agenda

(ii) That a Presentation on the Summary of Initiatives Project for the Advisory Committee be added to the Agenda as item 4.2

(iii) That an update on the McNab Street Terminal be added as item 6.4 on the Agenda

On a motion (R. Cameron/Lane) the agenda was approved as amended. CARRIED
(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 December 14, 2010 (Item 3.1)

(K. Nolan/ P. Cameron)
That the minutes of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities meeting held on December 14, 2010 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

(d) PRESENTATIONS (Item 4)

4.1 Public Works responding to request to receive Committees comments RE: snow clearing of Accessibility features at City Hall. (Tennessee Propedo)

Chair Nolan indicated that what initiated the request for staff to attend was after the first snow fall in December the ramps outside of City Hall were not properly cleared.

Staff apologized on behalf of Parks staff indicating that there was some confusion and that it has been corrected. Indicating that a new employee was in place at the first snowfall and it has been corrected and it is the top priority of Public Works.

Jane Lee indicated that in the past when Parking lots are cleaned they often leave snow piled in Accessible areas. Staff indicated that they have worked on that and can assure that they have worked on that although it is a different division they have been assured that this will not occur.

Mary Smithson asked about snow removal on her street. Indicating that she was told that it was a secondary street and that she had an issue with that because four residents on the street use DARTS.

Staff indicated that residential areas that are given less service and if it is impacting the level of service they receive and if they can’t access DART services. Staff did indicate that for environmental reasons they are trying to limit the amount of salt used in residential areas.
Councillor Morelli indicated that while there are standards that are used across the board if there are special reasons or circumstances staff try to accommodate them if they are contacted. The Councillor indicated that in a case like Mary’s you should contact staff and get their name for follow-up and also consider contacting your Councillor.

Wallis mentioned that there is a big issue with plowing at curb cuts that do not allow wheelchairs to be moved up. Wallis asked what priority bus stops get.

Staff indicated that twenty-four hours after the snow event. Wallis indicated that it is not always cleared within that time frame. Staff apologized and indicated that if the bus stop (concrete pad) is not cleared within 24 hours contact the City to report it. Staff indicated that they would contact the appropriate staff and make them aware of the issue so that it is addressed.

P. Cameron indicated that there are some residents in Stoney Creek that do such a great job clearing their sidewalks. She asked if there was any way to reward them and asked questions about how enforcement on snow removal works.

Staff indicated that there is no reward process however they do enforce the clearing indicating that the average time expected is for the snow to be cleared within 24 hours.

Chesney asked how the contractors that provide snow clearance are monitored.

Staff indicated that supervisors or lead hands inspect the area to ensure the proper work has been completed. Chesney asked about how the complaint process works and how they are brought forward.

Chair Nolan asked if there is documentation informing of the need for proper clearing of accessible features and the need for it. Staff indicated that the documentation was included in training as well as the tender requirements signed onto the contractors.

Chair Nolan asked how does the broader Disabled Community knows what they should do if they have issues around snow clearing. Staff indicated that there is an ad in the paper at the end of November. There was also information updates sent door-to-door.

(Lane/ R. Cameron)
That the Presentation by Tennessee Propedo RE: snow clearing of Accessibility features at City Hall be received.
4.2 Presentation on the Summary of Initiatives Project for the Advisory Committee (Added Item 4.2)

Maxine Carter provided an overview of the past actions that have brought this before the Committee.

Amy Komocsi provided a Presentation with the Aid of a Power Point Presentation and a hand out that relates the other details.

Chair Nolan indicated that they bring forward any anomalies that are found in the report that they be brought forward.

There was some discussion on how to relate information to the Committee members. There was also some discussion on how to make updated versions accessible.

Chair Nolan indicated that this is a good start towards addressing the work-flow of this Committee.

(Chesney/Mallett)
That the Presentation on the Summary of Initiatives Project for the Advisory Committee be received.

CARRIED

(e) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 6)

(i) Verbal update on Marydale Park (Maxine Carter)

Maxine Carter gave the background that Committee members indicated that she spoke to the Executive Director of CYO who wants to speak to the two members who were dismissed as he feels the correct message was not sent them at the time. He also indicated that they want to keep the discussions open with the ACPD.

(ii) Verbal update on results of the Hamilton Police Services discussion with ACPD (Maxine Carter)

Maxine Carter indicated that she had followed up with her contact in the Hamilton Police Service because the Services Accessibility Customer Service Standards indicating that they have been in touch with Gary Gogeun who had indicated that he had hoped to have there
Accessibility document posted on the website December 3, 2010. However it was not.

Chair Nolan indicated that this item should be tabled to the next meeting.

(iii) **Discussion on the need to email items in an accessible format**

Chair Nolan suggested that there are items being sent in a non-accessible format to members from other members.

There was the suggestion that members should send items in Accessible format be it through word, doc, or accessible pdf formats.

Manzuk indicated that he would look into trying to form a document giving advice on how to convert forms of pdf’s to be accessible.

(iv) **McNab Street Terminal Tour**

Maxine Carter provided an update to Committee members on the McNab Street Terminal tour and that there were a lot of comments that will be forwarded out to Committee members.

Sinclair indicated that she also attended however she went on the tour with the seniors committee as well. She indicated that she had to go out of the bus backwards.

Chair Nolan requested that the item of boarding and unboarding be sent to the Transportation Sub-Committee.

Maxine Carter gave details of the some of the comments that will be forwarded onto staff for them to be addressed. Such as steep ramps, there is a gap between where the buses roll up, not enough contrast signs, emergency call buttons were to high, poor bathroom placement, automatic door placement was poor, only one side of the building is accessible, no cautionary markings anywhere, no wheelchair waiting areas. Staff indicated that there were a lot of things that were not installed that did not allow for ACPD to comment.

There was some discussion from members about how they provided details at the design phase and they requested a synopsis on what was agreed to by staff and what was delivered in reality.

There was some discussion on how the process works and how the recommendations from Committees are used, whether or not consultants are used in the process.
Staff outlined how the discussion occurred at the Built Environment Committee meetings. Discussed what was asked for by the Sub-Committee discussed how the work wasn’t completed yet so it doesn’t necessarily mean that they won’t be done at this point.

Chesney indicated that they should possibly use this as an example of what can occur when the project staff do not consult with ACPD prior to construction beginning which was the case in this point.

Staff indicated that the Committee did see this before construction began however they were well at the end of the design stage.

Chair Nolan indicated that perhaps they should wait until the project is finished completely prior to examining the next steps of the Committee.

(Manzuk/Wallis)
That discussion Items 6.1 through 6.4 be received.

CARRIED

(f) NEW BUSINESS (Item 7)

(i) Stoney Creek Battlefield Arena is being changed to a Recreation Centre

P. Cameron indicated that this issue had been brought to a previous Built Environment meeting. Chair Nolan suggested that perhaps the best course of action is to wait until the Sub-Committee comes forward with a report on this matter.

(g) ADJOURNMENT (Item 8)

(Lane/Smithson)
The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Nolan, Chair
Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities

Andy Grozelle
Legislative Assistant
January 11, 2011