TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE
ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2013
7:00 PM

MUNICIPAL OFFICES 111 SANDIFORD DR, STOUFFVILLE ROOM

Chair: Alan Wolfe

A meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee was held as noted above.

Present: Linda Harvey, Heather Andrews, Sharon MacFadden Glyde Maclennan, Phil Bannon and Claudette Zabsonre, Anna Trokova, Jason Rumball

Regrets: Bruno Geremia

Guest: Isa James

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by Heather
SECONDED by Sharon
THAT the agenda be confirmed as circulated

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by Sharon
SECONDED by Linda

THAT the minutes of PREVIOUS MEETING September 12, 2013 be approved as circulated.
CARRIED

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

PRESENTATIONS, GUEST SPEAKERS / DELEGATIONS
DISCUSSION / DECISION ITEMS

Isa James from the Planning Department joined the committee to explain the Site Plan Approval Process. Isa explained that the AAC was one of many organizations that were circulated with the site plans for developments which are subject to the Site Plan Approval process. The comments are generally related to the outside of the building. It was noted that the committee often comments on the inside features of the building as well. Isa explained that the building code dictate the requirements inside the building. Notwithstanding the above, the proponent may choose to follow the committee’s suggestions and she suggested we continue to include these comments on the inside of the building.

The committee expressed our desire to know if our comments were being incorporated into the building and the surrounding site. Isa committed to developing a process to inform us how are comments are being dealt with.

Due to heavy workload, Isa has not been able to develop a check list for the accessibility items for Site Plan review. Heather noted that the previous committee did develop a check list. It may have been missed placed during a staff change. Alan will look for the previously developed list.

The committee thanked Isa for attending and clarifying a number of points.

CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS

1. Committee Administration

The committee welcomed Anna Trokova and Jason Rumball as new members.
Alan mentioned that Gary Sumner has resigned from the Town. He will be replaced with Apoorva Kumar from the CAO’s office as the committee’s contact person.

Alan also mentioned that a 2014 budget was submitted to the Town. It is essentially the same as 2013.

Alan also mentioned that sub-committees will be formed to deal with a number of issues facing the committee.

2. Town Projects

The Committee reviewed the plans for the Multi-Purpose centre at 6240 Main. Alan will send the comments.

There will be a site tour of the new Soccer Centre at 45 Innovator Drive on November 20, 7:00 pm.

Mike Richardson reported that all the committee’s suggestions for the Accessible change rooms at the Leisure Centre were adopted except for the automatic doors. The committee reiterated our position that automatic doors are an essential element of an accessible washroom.

3. New Construction Standards

The standards were not discussed at this meeting.

4. Accessibility Plan

The committee will continue to monitor the plan.

5. Facility Tours

Alan will look into arranging a trip to the new Cornel CC in the New Year.

6 Site Plan Review

There were no new plans to review.
7 Demographic Sub Committee Report

Glyde will start the study in the year. Heather will provide her some demographic material collected by her church. Also in the New Year a sub-committee will be formed to look into accessibility park play equipment and a strategy to implement incorporation of this equipment into our parks.

8 Transportation Report

The committee discussed the results of the Accessible Taxi service survey. It was agreed that the survey did not provide any insight into the need for this service in Town. Phil will look into taking accessibility into account in any new taxi licensing applications.

9 Downtown Working Group

Councillor Bannon reported that there was no meeting of the working group.

10 Goals for 2013-2014

No new goals were identified.

11 Voting Issues

There was a discussion regarding the proposal for internet voting. Phil explained the benefits did not justify the high cost of implementation. Accessible voting is an important interest of the committee and we would like to be kept up to date with any proposal which could increase the accessibility of the election. Internet voting has the potential to increase accessibility when the time is right.

12 Communications

Alan mentioned that the accessibility brochures require reprinting. The committee agreed that content of the brochures did not require a major rewriting. Anna pointed out that this would be a good opportunity to improve the presentation of the information. Subsequent to the meeting, Anna agreed to contact Samantha Kong from the Town to make any
necessary changes prior to reprinting the brochures.

CORRESPONDENCE

The minutes from the Regional AAC meeting was circulated prior to the meeting by email. Alan mentioned that the Whistle Radio had interviewed him regarding the committee’s activities and that there was an article in the Free Press about the committee.

NEW BUSINESS

For the next meeting the committee would like to have a presentation regarding the new Town Web Site.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be in Thursday January 16, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Sharon
Seconded by: Claudette

That the meeting be adjourned at 9:00 pm.