

## **MINUTES**

**Date:** Thursday February 2, 2023

**Location:** Room 304, TEAMS

**Time:** 9:00am

**Present:** M. Byl, K. Lizotte, Councillor R. Gibbons, S. Rodaway, M. Sylvester, T. Tiersma, C. Topping, L. McClure, J. Allen, E. Vandermaarel

8:57am The meeting convened with C. Topping, Chair presiding.

### **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

NIL

### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Motion by: M. Sylvester – K. Lizotte

THAT: The minutes of the meeting held on November 17, 2022, be confirmed.

Carried.

### **INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

The members introduced themselves including Councillor R. Gibbons, as well as J. Allen and E. Vandermaarel the newly appointed members of the committee.

### **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Motion by C. Topping – J. Allen:

THAT: Michelle Sylvester be appointed as Chair of the Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee for the year 2023.

Carried.

M. Sylvester resumed the Chair position for the remainder of the meeting.

Motion by M. Sylvester – E. Vandermaarel:

THAT: Cathy Topping be appointed as Vice Chair of the Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee for the year 2023.

Carried.

REPORTS of COMMITTEES

1. Budget: Nothing to report.
2. Special Events: S. Rodaway shared that all of the upcoming special events are either on trails or at Pinafore Park and there are no accessibility concerns. Members discussed that accessibility parking signs were covered during events in the summer. The Special Events committee has addressed this, and signs will not be allowed to be covered. People can only park there temporarily while they unload and reload equipment. S. Rodaway also shared that the noise level of music at the Park is being discussed and that this ongoing as they review the standards and update the Special Events application.
3. Site Plan Control: C. Topping reported on both 21 Kains (40 units) and 76 Courtland Terrance (63 condominiums). C. Topping and M. Sylvester were to attend the planning department after the meeting to review the site plans together. Chair M. Sylvester requested to also receive notification of new site plan applications pertaining to Accessibility. The secretary will request that C. Penney in the Planning Department include M. Sylvester in the distribution of these applications.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Playground Research Participation Opportunity – A. Griffin attended meeting to discuss the Jumpstart Playground research. It was determined that it did not apply to our location and was therefore not relevant to this group. Adrienne requested consultation with the MAAC Committee on future council approved playground replacements. She noted the implementation of the City's first rubberized surfacing and members suggested the Rainbow Blend colour option for the visually impaired. The members requested the secretary invite Adrienne to the March meeting to discuss and have input on inclusivity for the new summer projects.
2. Remembrance Day Special Events/Transit - Members discussed the that parallel transit was disrupted on the event day. S. Rodaway, Special events committee representative, noted that the gate on Centre Street was open for traffic flow out of the Moore St. Parking Lot but this was not used by parallel buses. S. Rodaway will inquire about this at the Special Events Committee meeting when the application for Remembrance Day is received. K. Lizotte noted that notices of disruption in service should include both conventional and parallel transit. The committee secretary will request this from the Transportation Technician.
3. Site Audit Review– C. Topping suggested that a subcommittee be created to review the new site audit forms to customize it to the needs of the MAAC committee and the City's facilities. Volunteers for the site audit committee include: L. McClure, M. Sylvester, C. Topping and E. Vandermaarel.
4. Joint Meeting with the Elgin County- Central Elgin Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee(JAAC) –The JAAC is waiting for appointments to their committee. Their Accessibility Coordinator – Sarah Savoie - will reach out with more information and dates once their committee is formed.
5. Open House – Quotes for branded tablecloths for the event. Members discussed this at the November meeting with the intention of getting quotes in the new year.

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Parallel Transit Safety Concerns. Members discussed the service request correspondence received by E. de la Penotiere regarding safety concerns pertaining to a higher level of service need. The members requested the secretary respond to the Transportation Technician with their response to the service request and ask that it be added as such :

*All of the City's buses meet the AODA standards. While the Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee appreciates this unique situation, the Localmotion Conventional and Parallel Transit provides a transportation service to the masses. This circumstance appears to have more complex needs and the committee suggests alternative modes of transport.*

The members also discussed issues with seatbelt and tie-downs. When left on the ground they pose a trip hazard and their uncleanliness from being on the floor soils riders clothing. The committee would request that the drivers are more vigilant and make every effort to return seatbelts to the seats for the next riders. The members asked that this information be shared with the Transportation Technician.

2. Talbot Street Phase 2 - Members discussed correspondence received from D. Docker regarding wheelchair accessible parking areas and drop curb consideration in the construction process. They requested the secretary provide the following excerpt to the Manager of Capital Works and Council.

Motion by: J. Allen – Councillor R. Gibbons

THAT: It is recommended that the drop curbs for new accessible parking spaces extend beyond the length of a vehicle on the Talbot Street Phase 2 construction to allow safe exit and entry for both side load and rear loading vehicles.

Carried.

3. AODA Standards – Committee Education. At the recommendation of the Vice-Chair, members of the committee will review sections of the AODA standards and present information back to the committee as a whole in an effort to broaden everyone's understanding of the standards and enhance the advisory function of the committee.
  - a. Disability Parking – C. Topping
  - b. Built Environment – D. Vandermaarel, M. Byl, M. Sylvester
  - c. Customer Service – L. McClure
  - d. Employment – J. Allen
  - e. Transportation – S. Rodaway, Councillor R. Gibbons, K. Lizotte
  - f. Trails – C. Topping

## NEXT MEETING

Thursday March 30th 9:00am in person in Room 304 and available by Teams

## ADJOURNMENT

Motion by: E. Vandermaarel – L. McClure

THAT: The committee adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

Carried