
ATTENDING

- Councillor Jennifer Ingham,
- Birgit Elssner
- Pamela Capern
- Emily Duffett
- Dwayne MacLeod
- James Sanford – Left at 5:48 p.m.
- Rebecca Smith – Late arrival 5:00 p.m.
- Mayor Wendy Donovan, and
- Recording Secretary, Amanda Brown

ALSO ATTENDING

- Director of Parks and Recreation, Kelton Thomason
- Climate Change Mitigation Coordinator, Omar Bhimji
- Neill Spencer, Active Transportation Engineer, Bicycle Nova Scotia

ABSENT WITH REGRETS

- Director of Finance, Mike MacLean
- Andrew Roach,
- Councillor Jodi MacKay, Alternate

CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Ingham, called the meeting to order at 4:33 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Minutes

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MINUTES FOR THE DECEMBER 14, 2020 ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

3. Selection of Chair of Committee

- Vice Chair asked that everyone provide an introduction of themselves.

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- Dwayne MacLeod self nominated and was appointed Chair of the Accessibility Committee.
 - Councillor Ingham self nominated for and was appointed as Vice Chair of the Accessibility Committee.
- 4. Public Input / Question Period** No public input.
- 5. Presentation: Info on Mobility Survey**
- Omar provided a presentation surrounding the Mobility Planning Update.
 - Review of the survey was provided which included the preferred methods of transportation.
 - Review of comments provided in the survey. Many were surrounding the accessibility of sidewalks during the winter and they are not cleared properly.
 - Review of questions for discussions by the Committee. Birgit asked for clarification if it is just physical disabilities Omar is looking for or for plain language etc.? Omar advised it can be as broad as the Committee would like to take it.
 - It was indicated accessible washrooms are an issue especially after hours.
 - Discussion surrounding sensory strips and the cut outs and let downs on the sidewalks.
 - Discussion surrounding how a bike route network could support mobility for people with disabilities in Wolfville. It was asked if the trails would be just for bikes or would it be for use with wheelchairs, strollers, carts etc., and how would there be accessibility points incorporated?
 - Rebecca advised the bike lanes have drainage grates that drop down about 4 inches and would make it very hard for anyone who has mobility issues. As a result, it would be nice to have them separate for people with mobility challenges from the regular cyclists.
- 6. Acadia Update – James Sanford**
- Acadia along with most other prescribed Municipalities and groups, except for The Town of Wolfville has a submission date of April 1, 2022 for their Accessibility Plan. There are currently folks working on the Terms of Reference and membership for those interested in sitting on the Committee for the following year.
 - The Minister has released standards for Accessibility in Post Secondary Institutions. The standards are those submitted from Committees of 2019 prior to things shutting down due to Covid.

- Acadia is currently auditing the accessibility for all the buildings on campus and James has suggested perhaps some of the businesses in the Town could be looked at as well. A working group could perhaps be set up to capture some of the work that is being completed by the students currently and used to assess the businesses.

7. Staff Reports for Discussion:

- There are no staff reports for discussion.

8. Round Table Discussion

a. Next Report Card cycle/process

- Council did approve the extension until the end of April.
- Birgit asked if the previous report card was accepted by Council and if so, it is basically just reviewing the current report card as its a living document and if changes need to be made it can be done if the Committee agrees to go ahead with the same format.

9. Next Meeting

Next Regular Meeting – **March 8, 2021** – Email to be sent regarding **times of the meeting.**

10. Adjournment

Members called an adjournment at 5:56 pm.

Approved at the March 8, 2021 Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting. As recorded by Amanda Brown, Assistant, Office of the CAO.