

Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes

Date:	Thursday, December 5, 2024
Time:	4:00 pm
Location:	Meeting Room 5
Members Present	Paul Clark (Chair), Michelle Hewitt (Vice Chair), Hana Cairns, Karine Veldhoen, Beth Flynn, Jeff Bourne
Members Absent	Randy LeBlanc, Celynne Hurst
Staff Present	Mariko Siggers, Community & Neighbourhood Services Manager; Robert Parlane, Parks & Buildings Planning Manager; Michael Jud, Deputy City Clerk

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Opening remarks, including territorial acknowledgement, were provided.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

Move By Michelle Hewitt/Seconded by Karine Veldhoen

THAT the Minutes of November 7, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

3. Reports

3.1 Accessibility Plan – Recommendations - review

Staff:

- Provided an overview of actions which have been recommended for inclusion in the City's Accessibility Plan and responded to questions.
 - Members of the Committee offered feedback on the relative importance and priority ranking of the various actions. Items flagged as high priority included:
 - Creation of a dedicated staff position to promote accessibility.
 - Review of corporate language around accessibility.
 - Remuneration for individuals with disabilities who are consulted by the City or who otherwise participate in City engagement activities.
 - Review of accessibility of public washrooms on City property.
 - Review of handyDART service.
 - Developing a communications strategy to raise awareness around accessibility issues.

Additional items flagged were:

- Importance of ongoing maintenance of City infrastructure to prevent accessibility issues from developing, e.g. cracks, potholes, etc.
- Issues related to Lime Scooters, e.g. scooters being left in the middle of sidewalks.

4. New Business

Staff are working to fill vacant positions on the committee. A list of candidates for Council consideration in the near future.

5. Next Meeting

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 9 2025.

Members will be canvassed as to preference for monthly meeting time in 2025 once the new members are appointed.

6. Meeting Termination

The meeting was terminated.

Paul Clark, Chair