

## Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: Thursday, September 4, 2024  
Time: 4:00 pm  
Location: Meeting Room 5

Members Present Paul Clark (Chair), Michelle Hewitt (Vice Chair), Beth Flynn, Randy LeBlanc  
Hana Cairns, Jeff Bourne, Celynne Hurst, Karine Veldhoen

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 by at 4:00 p.m.

Opening remarks, including territorial acknowledgement, were provided.

### 2. Confirmation of Minutes

Moved By Michelle Hewitt /Seconded by Beth Flynn

THAT the Minutes of July 4, 2024 be adopted.

Carried

### 3. Reports

#### 3.1 Accessibility Plan

Staff:

- Provided an update on community engagement regarding the Kelowna Accessibility Plan.
- Engagement will also feed into the Transportation Accessibility Plan.
- Engagement will start in September and will include focus sessions with staff.
- The draft plan is expected to be available in late 2024 with revisions possible in early 2025.
- Showed “Get Involved” webpage and an overview of engagement events. Both pop-up events and focus groups are included in the engagement.
- Concern expressed by the Committee that the pop up engagement events are all in the afternoon. Some people interested in participating may need to sleep in the afternoon.
- Staff will investigate moving some events to the morning and will discuss changes with the project team.
- ASL translation will be available via an application onsite.
- The Committee will receive the ways to get involved flyer electronically to help with getting the word out.
- News release and email out planned for next week. The Committee expressed a desire to help out with publicizing the engagement process.

### 3.2 Report to Council

- The Terms of reference indicate an annual report is to be received by Council.
- Staff liaisons will work with the committee to draft a report to Council.
- Staff will coordinate to select a contact person.
- The Chair requested a committee member be assigned to work on the report. Requested that they be provided with copies of previous Council reports from Committees.

### 3.3 Kelowna.ca webpage profiles

- The Committee would like to add information on committee membership to the accessibility webpage on kelowna.ca.
- Staff will look into what can be done to add names and possibly short bios and photographs. Hana offered to write the bios to reduce workload on staff.

### 3.4 Accessibility service requests – August requests – review

- Staff provided a summary of recent accessibility SRs.
- Discussion ensued regarding lime scooters being improperly parked and blocking people's way.

### 4.0 New Business

#### Selection of new AAC members (Chair)

- Raised question regarding the process for appointing new committee members. Committee is interested in participating in process of appointing committee members.
- Staff explained that this is not the normal process for appointing committee members.

#### Other

- Chair asked what is the evidence that accessibility is being considered in City infrastructure?
- Staff explained currently in the process of adopting Rick Hansen standards for accessibility as part of the BSK project (Parkinson Rec and new Activity Centres).
- Vice Chair asked to include in the minutes a statement about impact of technology on people's ability to participate in the meeting.

The Vice Chair left the meeting.

### 5. Meeting Termination

Moved By Celynne Hurst /Seconded by Randy LeBlanc

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

**Carried**

The meeting terminated at 5:40 p.m.