



City of Barrie

70 Collier Street
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Minutes - Final Accessibility Advisory Committee

Thursday, September 12, 2019

4:00 PM

Sir Robert Barrie Room

**For consideration by the Finance and Corporate Services Committee on October 2,
2019**

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Robb Meier at 4:07 p.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

Present: 7 - Chairman R. Meier
Councillor R. Thomson
Vice Chair C. Kenwell
T. Lowry
H. Morgan
L. Pope
D. Taylor

STAFF:

Accessibility and Diversity Specialist, C. Dillon
City Clerk/Director of Legislative and Court Services, W. Cooke
Senior Urban Planner, J. Lambie
Supervisor of Business Services, Transit, T. Turner
Supervisor of Transit Operations and Infrastructure, J. Zimmerman.

The Accessibility Advisory Committee met and reports as follows:

ACCESSIBILITY IN THE DOWNTOWN BUSINESS COMMUNITY

The Committee met and discussed how to engage and educate the Business Improvement Area (BIA) on accessibility measures that they could implement in their businesses including print on price tags and menus, lighting.

The Committee discussed possibility of requesting the BIA to use stop gaps to provide a smoother transition from the sidewalk into the businesses. C. Dillon, Accessibility and Diversity Coordinator showed the Committee a stop gap device and explained how it worked.

The Committee discussed putting videos together, creating a document providing guidelines on how to make businesses more accessible. The Committee decided on hosting a symposium with BIA to promote and engage with them to encourage them to make businesses more accessible.

UNIVERSAL DESIGN PRINCIPLES

J. Lambie, Senior Urban Design Planner provided an overview of the consultation and research that has been undertaken in preparing the new Official Plan related to universal design standards. He noted that there is information on buildingbarrie.ca associated with studies that have been undertaken to date and that the team has involved C. Dillon, Accessibility and Diversity Coordinator as part of the consultation process through her involvement on a Technical Team. J. Lambie noted that it is anticipated that a draft of the new Official Plan would be available in the winter of 2020.

C. Dillon suggested that staff review standards established by the Town of Caledon with respect to accessibility and universal design standards.

J. Lambie noted that it is anticipated that the new Official Plan will be presented to Council in the summer of 2020. He discussed the accessibility standards that are currently in the Official Plan. J. Lambie noted that the urban design guidelines would follow passage of the new Official Plan and that staff would review implementing further standards associated with universal design.

R. Meier, Chair noted that currently there is not provisions for universal design standards in the revised Community Improvement Plan and requested that staff be invited to the next meeting to provide details associated with the revised Plan.

ACCESSIBLE TRANSIT

D. Taylor discussed the meeting that the Accessible Transportation Sub-Committee had with Transit at August 1, 2019. He suggested changing the name of the Sub-Committee from Accessible Transportation Sub-Committee to Universal Transportation Sub-Committee to encompass broader issues and modes of transportation. D. Taylor advised that the Sub-Committee would be meeting on September 19, 2019 to establish goals and requested ideas from the committee that they would like to see this Sub-Committee review. Members of the Committee supported the broader mandate for this committee.

Megan, a community member in attendance spoke about the disability grants provided to her versus her monthly expenses including transit as she is on a fixed income.

The Committee discussed subsidies that are provided to the community through the County and the Province and that in some cases the subsidies for persons with disabilities provide for basic needs and do not necessarily cover the cost of monthly parking passes and questioned if a reduced rate could be implemented of persons

T. Turner, Supervisor of Business Services - Transit, discussed research that was conducted as part of the Transit Strategy. He discussed the implications of implementing such discounts. T. Turner provided details and approach associated with how the strategy and fare structure provides for affordability for all users and cost recovery to the municipality on special passes.

The Committee discussed various ideas associated with concerns and items about accessible transit for consideration and agreed to have the Universal Transportation Sub-Committee review discuss them further and bring back information to the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

CHAIRMAN