



# City of Barrie

70 Collier Street  
P.O. Box 400  
Barrie, ON L4M 4T5

## Minutes - Final Accessibility Advisory Committee

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Thursday, November 29, 2018

4:00 PM

Huronia "A"

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**For consideration by the Finance and Corporate Services Committee on February 5, 2019.**

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, D. Taylor at 4:02 p.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

**Present:** 4 - Chairman D. Taylor  
B. Jones  
R. Meier  
D. St. Amand

**Absent:** 2 - Councillor R. Romita  
S. O'Shea

ALSO PRESENT:  
C. Moran  
H. Morgan  
J. Peters  
M. Vassallo Idiens.

STAFF:  
Accessibility Coordinator, C. Dillon  
Committee Support Clerk, J. Werth.

The Accessibility Advisory Committee met and reports as follows:

**PRESENTATION BY MELISSA VASSALLO IDIENS OF MIATHRIVES - A CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION SUPPORTING FAMILIES AFFECTED BY THE SKIN DISEASE EPIDERMOLYSIS BULLOSA**

M. Vassallo Idiens, Executive Director and J. Peters, Managing Director of MiaThrives explained that their charitable organization helps to create awareness and offers support to families affected by the incurable skin disease Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB). Ms. Peters clarified that EB is a group of genetic conditions causing the skin to be very fragile and blister easily. Ms. Peters and Ms. Vassallo Idiens provided a presentation regarding MiaThrives.

Ms. Peters and Ms. Vassallo Idiens discussed slides concerning the following topics:

- An overview of Epidermolysis Bullosa noting that children with EB are often referred to as “Butterfly Children”;
- A video entitled “Mia’s Story” depicting the challenges faced by those affected by EB;
- Photographs of events from 2015 to 2018 to promote MiaThrives in the community;
- Photographs of a local bookstore promotion of the children’s book “Mia: A Butterfly Child”; and
- The launch of the #LoveMiasGloves social media campaign to increase public awareness for those affected by EB.

In closing, Ms. Vassallo Idiens and Ms. Peters requested support from the Accessibility Advisory Committee. Ms. Vassallo Idiens and Ms. Peters noted that they need to recruit board members for MiaThrives and volunteers for their committees and special events. The Accessibility Advisory Committee and C. Dillon, Accessibility Coordinator, offered to assist with the promotion of MiaThrives events in the community.

The Committee asked a number of questions regarding the information provided and received responses from the presenters.

**DISCUSSION WITH THE CITY OF BARRIE’S ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT REGARDING THE FEASIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTING A SERVICE DOG OFF LEASH RECREATION AREA**

The Committee deferred this item to a future meeting for discussion.

**DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PROVISION OF INCENTIVES TO THE CITY OF BARRIE'S BUILDING COMMUNITY TO INCORPORATE MORE ASPECTS OF ACCESSIBLE DESIGN**

H. Morgan, a resident of the City of Barrie, expressed her concerns regarding the lack of affordable accessible housing options within the City. Ms. Morgan discussed the physical challenges that she has experienced with the design of some accessible homes. C. Dillon, Accessibility Coordinator, reviewed the accessibility requirements under the Provincial Building Code.

Ms. Morgan and the Accessibility Advisory Committee discussed potential incentives for developers to increase the stock of accessible housing in the City.

C. Dillon, Accessibility Coordinator suggested that staff from the Planning and Building Services Department and the Finance Department be invited to a future meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee to further discuss incentives for builders to increase the number of accessible homes in the City. Ms. Morgan requested to provide a presentation to this group regarding accessible housing needs.

**REVIEW OF THE 2019-2024 MULTI-YEAR ACCESSIBILITY PLAN**

C. Dillon, Accessibility Coordinator requested feedback from the Accessibility Advisory Committee regarding the final draft of the City of Barrie's 2019-2024 Multi-year Accessibility Plan. Ms. Dillon noted that public consultation for this Multi-year Accessibility Plan began in January 2018.

The Accessibility Advisory Committee approved the final draft of the City of Barrie's 2019-2024 Multi-year Accessibility Plan as presented by the Accessibility Coordinator on November 29, 2018.

**ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2018 BUDGET UPDATE**

D. Taylor reviewed the expenses incurred by the Accessibility Advisory Committee in 2018.

The Committee agreed that, in the future, it will review its expenditures on a quarterly basis.

The meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

CHAIRMAN