



PUBLIC MINUTES
SASKATOON ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 9, 2015, 12:00 pm
Committee Room E, Ground Floor, City Hall

PRESENT: Mr. R. East, Chair
Mr. J. D. McNabb, Vice-Chair
Councillor C. Clark
Councillor M. Loewen
Ms. J. Dawson
Ms. G. Kozlow
Ms. O. Nicholson
Ms. M. Baxter
Director of Community Development L. Lacroix

ABSENT: Director of Facilities & Fleet Management T. Halstead

ALSO PRESENT: Access Transit Manager, B. Howe
Operations Manager, M. Moellenbeck
Operations Manager, H. Matthies
Director of Community Standards, A. Hildebrandt
Traffic Operations Engineer, G. Lazic
Committee Assistant D. Sackmann
Committee Assistant K. Kuspira

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order.

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Moved By: Mr. East

That the agenda be confirmed as presented.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved By: Ms. Kozlow

That the minutes of Regular Meeting of the Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee held on September 11, 2015 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. REVIEW OF ACCESSIBLE SIDEWALKS

The Committee at its meeting held on September 11, 2015 determined to participate in a walking tour prior to the start of the October meeting. The Committee is set to discuss their findings.

The Committee participated in a walking tour of the downtown area, prior to the scheduled meeting, to assess the accessibility of the sidewalks.

The Committee observed from their walking tour that there were many inconsistencies in the ramps, missing paving stones in the sidewalks, and inconsistencies regarding Business's signage out front of their stores and general obstacles on the sidewalks.

Moved By: Mr. McNabb

That the Committee issue direction.

CARRIED

6. COMMUNICATIONS

7. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

7.1 Reports of Access Transit Manager (Files CK. 225-70)

Verbal Update - B. Howe

Access Transit Manager, Bob Howe was in attendance and provided an update to the Committee on the Access Transit Annual Report. Mr. Howe updated the Committee on the following:

- Seeking information from the public regarding their personal limitations with Transit and Access Transit buses.
- The future idea is to have all buses be more accessible for those with mobility issues, including turning radius, announcements over the speakers, and digital destination boards.

Operations Managers, Michael Moellenbeck and Harold Matthies spoke and answered questions of the Committee on Transit updates. Mr. Matthies and Mr. Moellenbeck updated the Committee on the following:

- Transit is looking at developing a mobile app based system for the public to use regarding public transit.
- Training bus drivers to become more of a 'tour guide bus driver' to better aid those taking public transit.

Moved By: Ms. Baxter

That the information be received.

CARRIED

8. MATTERS FOR FOLLOW UP (Files CK. 225-70)

Matters for follow-up as of September 11, 2015.

The Committee Assistant submitted a copy of the Committee's Follow-up list for review and the Committee reviewed as follows:

Disabled Parking: Director of Community Standards, Hildebrandt provided an update on the intent of future work to more accessible parking spots and their size; loading zones; and asked the Committee their views on the permit parking policy and what they believe is needed. The Committee agreed that the City should continue to use both the stickers and vehicles tags, as well as, moving to more defined parking spots.

Snow Removal: Director of Community Standards, Hildebrandt gave a brief update on the snow removal clearing bylaw. Mr. Hildebrandt stated that it was Community Standards main goal to keep the sidewalks clear and putting the responsibility on the homeowner rather than the City.

Accessible Audible Pedestrian Signals: Traffic Operations Engineer, Transportations Lazic gave an update on the downtown audible pedestrian signals. Mr. Lazic reported that since the last Committee meeting held on September 11, 2015 that all audible pedestrian signals have been replaced, or fixed.

Councillor Clark excused himself from the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

Moved By: Ms. Dawson

1. That the Committee issue direction with respect to any follow-up; and
2. That the information be received.

CARRIED

9. STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES (Files CK. 1704-5)

The Committee determined at its September meeting to further discuss initiatives related to its budget.

The Committee Assistant submitted a current Statement of Expenditures for the Committee to review. The Committee discussed possibly spending some of their budget funds towards a community engagement meeting.

Moved By: Ms. Baxter

That the direction of the Committee issue.

CARRIED

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Mr. Robin East, Chair

K. Kuspira, Committee Assistant