



Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2022, 10:00 AM

Location: Shaheen Room, Essex Centre Sports Complex

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request. Please contact the Clerk's Office at clerks@essex.ca or 519-776-7336 extension 1100 or 1101.

Present: Lisa Wallace, Chair
Richard Kokovai
Ward 4 Councillor Sherry Bondy
Corrine Bridger, Vice-Chair
Ron McDermott

Also Present: Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services
Janice Aloisio, Recording Secretary
Marc Tortola, Manager, Strategic Communications

Regrets: Julia Welsh
Geraldine Dozois

Absent: Fern Walsh

1. **Call to Order**

The Chair, Lisa Wallace called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

2. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

There were no declarations of conflict of interest noted at this time.

3. **Adoption of Published Agenda**

3.1 Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda for May 11, 2022

EAAC22-05-012

Moved by Ron McDermott
Seconded by Richard Kokovai

That the published agenda for the May 11, 2022, Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting be adopted as with the following amendments:

1. That Agenda Item 7.3 be added as New Business to discuss Pucata Accessible Parking Sign Request.
2. That Agenda Item 7.4 be added as New Business to discuss a Community Support Centre of Essex County Needs Survey.

Carried

4. Adoption of Minutes

4.1 Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes for March 9, 2022

EAAC 22-05 -013

Moved by Richard Kokovai

Seconded by Corrine Bridger

That the minutes of the Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting held March 9, 2022, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

5. Unfinished Business

5.1 Harrow Streetscape Resolution of Accessibility Issues Update

Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services provided a verbal report and advised that the final walk through of the streetscape project was completed last month. Additionally, Mr. Morassut advised, that the curb-cut for the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC) will be or has been completed and, the stains on the concrete from the rust bleeding from the textile plates will be revisited once assessed if power washing will remove the stain.

Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services further advised that the crosswalk signals have been activated and the traffic light at Queen and King will be activated shortly.

Committee concluded that the rust stain on the concrete from the textile plates will be brought forward with an update at the next meeting.

5.2 Accessibility Flag and other Promotional Items Update

Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services presented the county-wide accessibility flag which will be raised annually in conjunction with National Accessibility week, May 29 to June 4.

Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services advised that a flag raising ceremony will be held on Sunday, June 29 to kick-off the week and that all Committee Members were welcome to attend.

5.3 Development Standards Manual Smaller Handbook Update

Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services provided a verbal report and advised that the summer student is set to start next week, and this will be one of their projects to complete. Once completed it will be presented to the Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee for input.

5.4 Essex Centre Sports Complex (ECSC) 2nd Floor Accessible Door Update

Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services provided a verbal report and advised that quotes have been obtained and a couple of grants have been applied for in an effort to off-set the cost of the project as there is a short-fall of approximately \$8,000. based on the quotes received with what was approved in the current Town budget.

Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services further advised that a re-assessment of departmental capital and operating budgets will be re-assessed later in the year to evaluate if any funds can be reallocated to fund the shortfall on monies for the project.

5.5 Fieldhouse Bathroom Door Update

Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services provided a verbal report and advised that there is a notice of motion on the upcoming Council agenda for Council to discuss

this problem and further, that a grant application has been submitted for this project through the Town.

Committee discussion ensued resulting in the Committee supporting the Chair in submitting a letter to Council in support of remediation of the deficiencies at this Town owned facility.

EAAC 22-05 -014

Moved by Richard Kokovai

Seconded by Corrine Bridger

That the Chair, on behalf of the Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee, send a letter to the Director, Community Services, Town Solicitor/Clerk, Legal and Legislative Services and Town Council in support of the request for accessibility upgrades to the washroom at the former Kinsmen fieldhouse.

Carried

EAAC 22-05 -015

Moved by Richard Kokovai

Seconded by Ron McDermott

That the Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee recommends to Council to instruct Town Staff to prepare a report to the Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee with an audit of all municipal buildings listing all AODA accessibility deficiencies in each facility.

Carried

5.6 Essex County Library Push-Button Access to Washrooms Update

Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services provided a verbal report and advised that the accessible push-button access to the Essex County Library has been allocated as an item for approval in the Town's 2023 Capital Budget and that this item can be removed from the Committee's regular agenda.

EAAC 22-05 -016

Moved by Richard Kokovai

Seconded by Corrine Bridger

That all verbal reports and updates as presented by Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services and as listed in Agenda Item 5. Unfinished Business be received by the Committee for information.

Carried

6. Correspondence

6.1 Town of Essex 2022 Municipal Election Accessibility Plan

The Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee discussed the Town of Essex 2022 Municipal Election Accessibility Plan and as to whether or not there is any difference as compared to what the Federal and Provincial Election Accessibility Plan offers.

Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services advised that he will follow-up with the Clerk's Department and inquire.

Chair, Lisa Wallace advised that she recently had been provided with information on what the Federal and Provincial Election Plan's offer and will forward the information to the Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee Members for future discussion and review and recommendations, if any, at the next Committee meeting.

EAAC 22-05 -017

Moved by Richard Kokovai

Seconded by Lisa Wallace

That Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee receive and support the Town of Essex 2022 Municipal Election Accessibility Plan.

Carried

7. New Business

7.1 National Accessibility Week – May 29th – June 4th

Marc Tortola, Manager, Strategic Communications was welcomed to the meeting to describe to the Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee the variety of media support options he would provide to promote the National Accessibility Week.

Mr. Tortola advised that all Town media platforms, including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter etcetera would be broadcasted during the National Accessibility Week to provide education and promotion to the public.

Committee discussion ensued and ideas were brought forward.

Marc Tortola advised that he would be doing a week long media campaign offering education to the public through the Town's various media platforms and further highlighting the Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee and Town projects and enhancements that support a more accessible Essex.

The Chair, Lisa Wallace provided Marc Tortola with this year's national theme of "Adapt, Improve and Overcome".

7.2 Proclamation Follow-up

The Chair, Lisa Wallace advised that following the Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee's last meeting, she attempted to submit a proclamation request on behalf of the Committee however the Town's weblink to the submission form was unavailable and she was unable to submit a request on behalf of the Committee.

Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services advised that he looked into it, that the link was fixed and that if, submitted today by either himself or the Chair, it would meet the timelines to be on the next regular Council agenda.

7.3 Pucata Accessible Parking Sign Request

Councillor Bondy advised that the evening prior to this meeting, she emailed Members of the Committee with an issue and request to the Committee by Mr. Pucata.

Mr. Pucata would like the Committee to consider and approve a request for Accessible Parking signage in front of his house on Craig Street in the village of Colchester.

Committee discussion ensued on the matter and Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services provided the Committee with a copy of their Terms of Reference for review. Mr. Morassut advised that this issue does not fall within the Committee's mandate.

EAAC 22-05 -018

Moved by Lisa Wallace

Seconded by Councillor Bondy

That Jake Morassut, Director, Community Services forward the email to the Director, Infrastructure Services regarding the request from Mr. Pucata for an accessible parking sign in front of his house on Craig Street for review and follow-up as required.

Carried

7.4 Community Support Centre of Essex County Needs Survey

Councillor Bondy advised that there is a valuable survey that the Community Support Centre of Essex County is conducting and that it would be very helpful if members of the Committee submitted a survey to aid them in their assessment of needs of seniors and older adults in Essex County. Councillor Bondy further advised that she has copies available and has also made copies available at various public facilities throughout the Town including the Harrow and Colchester South Community Centre.

Marc Tortola, Strategic Communications advised the Committee that the survey link is available on the Town's website and other social media platforms. Mr. Tortola further advised that promotions have been done and will continue until the conclusion of their submission date.

EAAC 22-05 -019

Moved by Lisa Wallace

Seconded by Ron McDermott

That the information as received under Agenda Item 7. New Business be received by the Committee for information.

Carried

8. Future Meetings

September 7, 2022, 10:00AM

Location: Shaheen Room, Essex Centre Sports Complex, 60 Fairview Avenue West

9. Adjournment

EAAC 22-05-020

Moved by Richard Kokovai

Seconded by Ron McDermott

That the Essex Accessibility Advisory meeting of May 11, 2022 be adjourned at 11:25AM.

Carried

Chair

Recording Secretary