

Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee (EAAC) was held on Thursday, November 7, 2019 in the large meeting room of the Essex Municipal Office, 33 Talbot Street South, Essex, Ontario.

Chair, Richard Kokovai called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

1. Roll Call

Present:

Richard Kokovai, Chair
Earl Brownell
Geraldine Dozois
Julia Welch
Councillor, Sherry Bondy

Also Present: Doug Sweet, Director, Community Services
Jeffrey Morrison, Director, Corporate Services
Janice Aloisio, Committee Secretary

Regrets: Lisa Wallace, Vice Chair

Ron McDermott
Claudette Gauthier

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

- There were no declarations of conflicts of Interest.

3. Delegation: Ed Burling and Kevin Schaafsma

- Kevin is a local resident and is confined to a wheelchair and his father-in-law Ed brings him to various appointment in the Essex Centre area and wanted to provide insight to the committee of an number of mobility challenges they have encountered between his home on Cranberry Court and the doctors clinic on Talbot, the Legion, the dollar store and other businesses uptown;
- Most issues are with curbs and sidewalk access needing to be ground down to make for a smoother transition from road to sidewalk;
- They compiled a list of corners where they have encountered uneven or raised curbing that is very difficult to traverse in a wheelchair;
- The Chair thanked them for their presentation and they departed from the meeting at 9:20 AM.

Moved by: Julia Welsh

Seconded by: Earl Brownell

(EAAC19-11-032) That the information brought forward by the delegations be received by the Committee and the list forwarded to the Manager of Public Works.

“Carried”

4. Adoption of Published Agenda

- a. Regular Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee Agenda for November 7, 2019

Moved by: Geraldine Dozois

Seconded by: Earl Brownell

(EAAC19-11-033) That the published agenda for the Thursday, November 7, regular meeting of the Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee be adopted as circulated with the addition of the delegation at the beginning of the meeting. **“Carried”**

5. Adoption of Minutes from October 3, 2019

- a. Regular Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes for October 3, 2019

Moved by: Earl Brownell

Seconded by: Geraldine Dozois

(EAAC19-11-034) That the minutes of the regular Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting held October 3, 2019, be adopted as circulated. **"Carried"**

6. Old Business

a) Prioritization of Schedule "B" to the Updated Multi-Year Plan 2019-2024

- Committee members did a line item review and discussion on "Schedule B" to the revised Multi-Year Plan and a priority schedule was created that will be included with the revised plan to be presented to Council at the December 2nd regular meeting by the Chair and Vice-Chair of the committee.

7. New Business

a) Rick Hansen Conference Update

- The Chair, Richard Kokovai attended the conference in Toronto and provided an overview of the speakers and will prepare a more detailed report from his notes and circulate to the committee members in the future for their information; and
- He advised the first time held conference was extremely well organized and he would recommend attendance by other committee members and staff at any future conference held.

b) Draft PowerPoint presentation for Review and Comment

- A copy of the draft PowerPoint presentation was circulated and reviewed by committee and will be presented by the Chair and Vice-Chair at the December 2nd regular council meeting with the Multi-Year Plan.

c) County of Essex Speaker David Lapofsky – November 5 Civic Centre Update

- David is a prominent champion of accessibility and the rights of persons with disabilities. An author, advocate, professor, lawyer and founding member of Barrier-Free Canada and advocate for laws to protect the rights of persons with disabilities and led the Ontarians with Disabilities Act Committee which eventually led to the two provincial laws to make Ontario fully accessible;
- Doug, Earl, Sherry and Janice attended the Civic Centre on November 5 for the Accessibility Champion, David Lepofsky speech and provided the committee members with some of the highlights of his speech;
- Accessibility Fails, take a picture and Tweet at #AODAFails or #DialDoug;
- View his videos on YouTube videos at David Lepofsky.

d) Town Department Updates to Committee Meetings at Future Meetings

- Doug advised the Committee that commencing in the new year, he intends on having various Town department heads or designates attend various regularly scheduled meetings to provide information with the intent that it will strengthen the communication lines between the various departments and the committee so that the committee is aware of what various departments have done or plan on doing or what they are responsible for.

8. Correspondence

a. Site Plan Control Application SPC-02-19

Re: 574 Grondin Avenue, McGregor – Owners – CSC Providence (St. Ursula School)
That notation be made that the Site Plan Control Application submitted by CSC Providence for property located at 574 Grondin, McGregor to permit expansion of the existing parking area to include an additional 10 parking spaces in an expanded parking area on the south side of the school was received for comments on October 22, 2019 and circulated to the committee members for comment to the Policy Planner;

Moved by: Julia Welsh

Seconded by: Earl Brownell

(EAAC19-11-035) That the committee received the above noted correspondence and dealt with it as set out above. **"Carried"**

9. Next Meeting Date

- Time adjustment discussion to December meeting;
- Next meeting will be on Thursday, December 5 at 9:30 AM in the large committee room of the Essex Municipal Office.

10. Adjournment

Moved by: Geraldine Dozois

Seconded by: Earl Brownell

(EAAC19-11-036) That this meeting adjourns at 10:30 am. **"Carried"**

Richard Kokovai, Chair

Janice Aloisio, Secretary