Minutes
Accessibility Advisory Committee
Committee of the Council of
The Corporation of the City of Brampton

Accessibility for Life

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

**Members Present:** Glenda Coupland (Chair)
Harvinder Bajwa
Harpreet Bhons
Vicki Faulkner
Sherri Hopkins
Karyn Pelkie
Raymond Shaver
Therese Anne Sidler
Franco Spadafora

**Members Absent:** Frank Raymond (Vice-Chair) (regrets)
Mary Pettingill (regrets)
City Councillor Pat Fortini - Wards 7 and 8
(regrets - personal)

**Staff Present:**
Corporate Services Department:
Wendy Goss, Accessibility Coordinator
Sudha Hemmad, Senior Advisor, Strategic Communications
Sylvia Ingham, Access, Inclusion and Diversity Clerk
Chandra Urquhart, Legislative Coordinator
The meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m. and adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

1. **Approval of Agenda**

AAC012-2016 That the agenda for the Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting of May 17, 2016, be approved, as amended:

To add:
9.2 Information from Harvinder Bajwa, re: Canadian-South Asians Supporting Independent Living (C-Sasil) – Annual Event.

Carried

2. **Declarations of Interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act**

3. **Minutes**

3.1. Minutes - Accessibility Advisory Committee - April 12, 2016

The minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting of April 12, 2016, were approved by Council on May 11, 2016. The minutes were provided for Committee’s information.

4. **Presentations/Delegations**

5. **Municipal Accessibility Plan Priorities**

6. **Other/New Business**
6.1. Discussion re: **Development of Accessible Parking Public Awareness Program**

Glenda Coupland, Chair, introduced Sudha Hemmad, Senior Advisor, Strategic Communications. She advised that Ms. Hemmad is here to obtain Committee’s thoughts, understand the aim, key messages and target audience for the a public awareness campaign about the proper use of accessible parking spots.

Ms. Hemmad encouraged members to provide comments and details on situations and incidents they may have encountered on a regular basis. She explained that their input would assist in the development of a communication plan.

Committee discussion took place as follows:

- Inappropriate use of accessible parking permits by relatives of someone who owns a permit, e.g.
  - permits are copied and used by others
  - use of accessible spots by relatives without disabilities
  - waiting in a vehicle in an accessible spot while disabled person is not in vehicle

- Parking in accessible aisles between two parking spots by people without permits and sometimes those with accessible parking permits; provide information/definition to the public regarding
  - purpose of accessible aisles, why some space may have their own access aisle and why some are wider than others
  - yellow hash marks and striped markings at shopping malls

- Whether statistical evidence is available on the misuse of accessible parking spots

- Use of ‘punch lines’ pertaining to persons with disabilities
  - printed in flyers and handouts and placed on vehicles in parking lots
  - videos on the City’s website featuring a ‘visual’ impact
  - social media showing a YouTube video interview with a disabled person - goal to appeal to people’s emotions

- Accessible spots are used whenever people are in a hurry
  - to load or unload vehicles
  - to leave shopping carts
• Role of Enforcement and By-law Services to ensure compliance with respect to accessible parking spots and action taken for non-compliance
  o security guards are also authorized to issue tickets at shopping malls
  o 60 percent of the tickets issued by officers were voided and fines range from $300 to $5,000
  o judges have the authority to adjust the fines stated on a ticket
  o property manager would be responsible for calls to request towing of a vehicle from private property
• Present parallel life situations to the public, such as,
  o respecting a ‘reserved’ table sign in a restaurant
  o Reversing the parking lot rules and have persons with disabilities park in all the regular parking spots
• Focus key messaging through public education and awareness

It was suggested that members think of catch phrases and ‘punch lines’ applicable to raising awareness for the messaging campaign for discussion at next meeting.

The following motion was considered:

AAC013-2016 1. That staff develop a communication plan on raising awareness to the public on the proper use of accessible parking spots and aisles, to be presented at a future meeting; and

2. That staff liaise with Enforcement and By-law Services for the overall awareness program; and

3. That staff provide a status update on the plan at the next meeting.

   Carried
7. **Correspondence**

8. **William Osler Health Centre Accessibility Advisory Committee**

9. **Information Items**

9.1. Discussion, re: Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Karen Pelkie, Member, advised that City staff has been working with consultants to develop the City’s Parks and Recreation Master Plan. She has attended workshops as a representative of the Accessibility Advisory Committee to participate in the discussions and provide input. She summarized the work accomplished to date, referenced the scope of facilities and programs being evaluated, future challenges and opportunities, and outlined the next steps and time lines for completion of the plan. She encouraged members to attend the meeting scheduled for June.

9.2. Information from Harvinder Bajwa, re: Canadian-South Asians Supporting Independent Living (C-Sasil) – Annual Event.

Harvinder Bajwa, Member, circulated an invitation to an event, “6th Annual Abilities Challenge” hosted by the Canadian South Asians Supporting Independent Living on Saturday, June 18, 2016 at the Brampton Soccer Centre. She encouraged members to attend and support the event.

10. **Future Agenda Items**

1. Curb Cuts and Repair

11. **Construction Projects**
12. **Question Period**

13. **Public Question Period**

14. **Adjournment**

AAC014-2016 That the Accessibility Advisory Committee do now adjourn to meet on Tuesday, June 14, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. or at the call of the Chair.

Carried

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Glenda Coupland (Chair)