



PETAWAWA ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

May 4, 2023 - 1:00 P.M.

Municipal Office – Council Chambers

PRESENT: Sheila Clarke, Lynn Davenport, Karen Donovan, Athena Tefoglou, Leah Cuffe

REGRETS: Kate Bennett

Welcome/Call to Order

S. Clarke called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda

Moved by K. Donovan, seconded by A. Tefoglou that the May 4, 2023, Petawawa Accessibility Advisory Committee agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None.

Adoption of previous minutes of March 23, 2023

Moved by A. Tefoglou, seconded by L. Cuffe that the minutes from March 23, 2023, be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

Old Business:

Multi-Year Work Plan 2023-2026 (draft)

A multi-year draft work plan 2023-2026 reviewed by the Committee present. The plan is detailed and is easy to read and follow the accomplishments made and what needs to be

worked on to improve accessibility for all members of our community. The Plan Initiatives covers all departments in the Town of Petawawa.

The Chair Sheila Clarke and Councillor Karen Donovan will prepare and present the Annual Accessibility Report to the Town of Petawawa in December 2023.

Inclusive Community Grants

Athena Tefoglou reported that the request for Inclusive Community Grants was submitted on time for the accessible bicycles to be used by the Community. The request was for four bicycles, we need to wait to learn if the grant is approved.

Showcase Debrief

Discussions were held on the turnout of the Showcase, noting that the event was well attended and all PAAC marketing items were handed out. Many residents liked the magnifier bookmark and noted that the item is very handy, however, the “no-touch tool” wasn’t as big of a hit. The committee should investigate purchasing more magnifiers and additional accessible tools to replenish the marketing items. S. Clarke noted that the Town’s booth at the showcase needs a bigger space as the area is very congested and residents were not able to access the accessible equipment display. The ramp coming into the event was too small for people in wheelchairs or using mobility aids, there was no handrail for people with balance issues. Shelia would like to see an in and out wider ram provided. There were places that used cables and were too high for people to step over and get a wheelchair over. The accessibility of Showcase 2023 was not as accessible as it could be.

New Business:

IceCube Skating Aid

S. Clarke researched a skating aid that was aired on CBC News called the “ICECUBE” it is a skating aid developed by David Grimes for his son Liam and others with mobility impairments to be able to enjoy ice skating. The Ice Cube is produced on a 3D printer and the approximate cost is about \$2000.00. Something like this would further the accessibility of recreational services for the community. The committee was impressed with the device and will look further into fund raising for one or more. S. Clarke also thought as a committee we could invite David and Liam down to a meeting to further discuss the Ice Cube.

Correspondence:

No items of correspondence.

Member Input:

Lynn Davenport:

Reported that she did not have any luck with ideas/training with having a Quiet/Sensitive Santa for our Community. Athena Tefoglou will reach out to a friend who may be able to help us plan this event for our community and lead us towards having the training required. We also need to produce an inviting name for the event. K. Donovan will reach out to the Southside Community Centre to book rooms for this event. We would need a room for Santa and his Elves as well as a room for the families to wait their turn. She will ask for the availability of these rooms in the last week of November or the first or second week of December. Once the venue is set, with a Santa we can then ask CANEX, Independent Grocery Stores as well as other local businesses to donate drink boxes, cookies, candy canes for the guests. We then will need to get word out to the community to invite guests that would benefit from a Quiet/Sensitive Santa.

Karen Donovan

Suggested that the PAAC share a culture event with a drumming ceremony at the Catwalk in July or August and the committee attend and have information available for the community. National Culture Days for 2023 are September 22nd-October 15th, this could also be another opportunity for PAAC to promote inclusion for everyone. Further discussion is required for this at the next meeting.

K. Donovan will invite Councillor James Carmody to the next meeting to ask for his input on the events the committee would like to pursue.

Leah Cuffe

L. Cuffe has information and websites that promote accessibility for everyone, she has emailed the information to the committee members. This information could be promoted on the Town's website and Facebook page:

- Gear Heads and Bike Path: Radtke Estates and Surrounding Trail Concept Plan-Stakeholder Survey Questions. Leah was unsuccessful in finding the survey questions,

but Leah's understanding that those that have filled out the survey will be contacted to do a site plan on location. The timeline is unknown.

- Camp Candou July 2nd-7th, 2023-A summer camp for children with limb loss and congenital limb difference.
- Tour de Bonnechere August 27, 2023 registration is open for: 50k, 65k, or 100k route at your own pace. There is also a scenic 20k route for families.

<http://tourdebonnechere.blogspot.com>

- Tour de Whitewater July 15th, 2023, Registration is now open 10k, 30k, 50k, 100k or the 65k Gravel. <http://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=309072>
- Calendar of Health Promotion Days- <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/calendar-health-promotion-days.html>

Sheila Clarke

Suggested that the committee add an event block to the initiative plan for Treat Accessibility, National Accessibility Week May 28-June 3rd, 2023. October is Disability Month, International Day of Persons December 3rd, 2023, Quiet/Sensitive Santa. Athena Tefoglou will contact the local radio station event page to put the events/awareness days on the radio station and at times ask the radio station staff to interview members of PAAC. Articles in both local papers, Petawawa Post and Pembroke Observer will reach a wider audience. Garrison Petawawa could also put the message on their electronic sign board. An event block will ensure that the committee does not miss ways to improve accessibility information in Petawawa.

S. Clarke noted how exciting the sharing of ideas and the plans made to improve and build on the accomplishments to accessibility in the Town of Petawawa; and thanked the committee for their dedication and enthusiasm to accessibility.

Next Meeting Date: June 22, 2023 at 1:00pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:26 pm.