



Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 8, 2016

4:00 pm

Michigan Diner Essex

27 Victoria Avenue

Essex, Ontario

N8M 1M4

Committee Members: Christine Easterbrook, Chair
Gord Queen, Vice Chair
Therese Lecuyer
John Boyko
Charles Wimperis
Debbie Alexander
Rosemary Cobby

Administration: Mary Brennan, Director of Council Services / Clerk
Renée Trombley, Manager of Corporate Communications and Accessibility
Katherine Hebert, Council Services Administrative Assistant

1. Recording of Attendance

The Chair noted that all members were in attendance for the meeting.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There were no conflicts of pecuniary interest declared.

3. Adoption of Regular Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the November 10, 2016 ECAAC meeting.

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24-2016

Moved By Ms. Lecuyer

Seconded By Mr. Wimperis

That the minutes of the November 10, 2016 meeting of the Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee be approved.

Carried

4. Delegations and Presentations

The Chair noted that there were no delegations scheduled.

5. Communications

5.1 Correspondence

25-2016

Moved By Mr. Queen

Seconded By Mr. Wimperis

That the correspondence for the December 8, 2016 meeting be received.

Carried

5.1.1 Ministry of Community and Social Services

News Release - Ontario Helping Protect People with Developmental Disabilities - Province Launches Service for Reporting Abuse and Neglect

Discussion took place with regard to the reporting of abuse and neglect details of the service.

The Chair noted that it would be desirable to have an anonymous reporting option.

Ms. Cobby indicated that the school board, through the Children's Aid Society has an anonymous reporting option.

Ms. Alexander noted that the policy for Community Living is to first call the local police service, and then if they deem further action is required then they would initiate the investigation.

Mr. Boyko indicated that he would request clarification on the matter and report back to the committee.

5.1.2 The Arc

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
[Blog Meet the Hometown Host](#)

5.1.3 AODA Toolbox

[2017 is just around the corner: are you ready?](#)

5.1.4 Utah Daily Herald Article

[Their Voice: Helping those with intellectual disabilities through the spirit of Christmas](#)

5.1.5 Disability Horizons

[Giving You a Voice - Web-based lifestyle magazine from the UK](#)

5.1.5.1 Disability and Fashion

[How to Sparkle this Christmas](#)

5.1.6 Ontario Human Rights Commission

[New OHRC Policy on Ableism and Discrimination Based on Disability](#)

Ms. Alexander requested clarification on the term "ableism".

Ms. Brennan provided the following definition: Ableism is the discrimination or prejudice against people who have disabilities. Ableism can take the form of ideas and assumptions, stereotypes, attitudes and practices, physical barriers in the environment, or larger scale oppression. It is often times unintentional and most people are completely unaware of the impact of their words or actions.

6. Reports and Questions

6.1 Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee Annual Report to Council 2016

Report Number 2016-R012-CS-1207-MB, dated December 7, 2016, from Mary Brennan, Director of Council Services/Clerk. This report was presented on the Consent Agenda for December 7, 2016 and received by County Council.

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Ms. Brennan noted that the report was part of the County Council Consent Agenda. There was no formal discussion or action directed as a result of the report.

26-2016

Moved By Ms. Lecuyer

Seconded By Mr. Boyko

That the Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee Annual Report to Council 2016 be received.

Carried

6.2 2017 ECAAC Meeting Dates

Report Number 2016-R001-ECAAC-1208-MB, dated December 7, 2016.

The Chair noted that these dates are presented as placeholders but changes to the schedule may be considered throughout the course of the year.

27-2016

Moved By Ms. Alexander

Seconded By Mr. Wimperis

That the 2017 ECAAC meeting dates as set out in this report be approved.

Carried

7. Unfinished Business

The Chair noted that there were no items of unfinished business raised.

8. New Business

8.1 2017 Initiatives and Activities

The Chair led a discussion on the items as listed.

- Consultation and Preparation of New 5 Year Accessibility Plan

It was noted that by the end of 2017 the Committee would have to have a revised plan in place.

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Ms. Trombley advised that the Committee would be involved in the pre-planning and drafts of the plan would be brought to the Committee for review.

- review of Committee Terms of Reference

The Chair indicated that a review of the Terms of Reference would be completed by the Committee.

Ms. Brennan advised that the revision would take into account any changes to legislation that has taken place since the last review.

- Social Media launch

Ms. Trombley advised the Committee that the ECAAC Facebook page is currently live, as it was used to communicate and advertise for the Accessibility Workshop. There was some suggestion that there be some posting and sharing of communication items and newsletter type information on the Facebook page once it is completely established. It is the intention of the County to establish a communication plan which will include social media, in the near future.

- Delegation Invitations

The Chair indicated that having delegations on various topics was interesting for the Committee and would like to see more of these in 2017.

It was suggested by Ms. Cobby that a delegation opportunity be presented to the Municipality of Leamington Parks department, and the individual responsible for the Seacliff Park accessible amenities that were recently installed.

- Accessibility Workshop

The Chair discussed the annual Accessibility Workshop and expressed her desire to continue to host the event.

Discussion among Committee members took place with regard to some options to consider for future years based on experience and feedback.

- Newsletter

The Committee discussed possible items to include in the next edition of the newsletter.

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Ms. Trombley raised the issue of posting the newsletter online and as individual items on Facebook as an option for reaching more people.

- Tour of Sun Parlor Home

The Chair noted that the Committee had received a tour of Sun Parlor Home several years ago.

Ms. Brennan advised that a tour of the facility could be planned for spring or summer for ease of access and viewing the facility

- Review of Proposed New Accessibility Standards

The Chair noted that the impending new legislation would be reviewed by the Committee and compared with existing provincial legislation.

- National Access Awareness Week Plans (1st week of June)

The Chair noted that the Committee would recognize and bring awareness to the week. She noted that further discussion on this issue can be over the course of the coming months.

- International Day of Persons with Disabilities Plans (December 3)

The Chair discussed making a presentation to Council once again to observe the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the ECAAC is scheduled for Thursday, January 12, 2017.

10. Adjournment

28-2016

Moved By Ms. Lecuyer

Seconded By Mr. Queen

That the meeting of the ECAAC adjourn at 5:00 PM.

Carried