



# Committee Minutes

## Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee May 10, 2023 – 1:00 PM

The Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee met on the above date electronically with the following members in attendance:

Present: Chair Catherine Sholtz; Councillor Andrea Matrosovs; and Members Christina Schnell, Brooke Sillaby, Andrew Edgcumbe

Regrets: Members Claudia Strellocke and Andy Underwood

### Municipal Representatives:

Teresa Crawford and Mike Botelho, Grey Highlands; Rayburn Murray and Niall Loble, Georgian Bluffs; Melissa Hilgendorff, Town of Hanover; Jen Patton, The Town of the Blue Mountains; Jamie Eckenswiller and Sarah Bothman, West Grey

### Staff

Present: Kathie Nunno, Contract and Accessibility Coordinator; Rob Hatten, Manager of Communications; Becky Hillyer, Senior Planner; Natalie Mechalko, Trails, and Forestry Coordinator; Jill Paterson, Manager of Museum and Archives; and Sarah Goldrup, Deputy Clerk/Legislative Coordinator

Others: Andrea Nelson, GM BluePlan

## Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

## Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

## Reports

## PDR-JAAC-22-23 - Recreational Trailhead Study Phase 1 Report (Natalie Mechalko & Andrea Nelson, GM BluePlan)

Natalie Mechalko introduced the report and consultant Andrea Nelson from GM BluePlan. The consultant presented the results of the phase one report of the Recreational Trailhead Study and reviewed the purpose and approach of the study, the study area, the ranking system used, the high-priority properties identified, and the considerations for the design of public spaces standards and AODA compliance within the study. The consultant also described the proposed Kimberly Forest Trailhead and the Chatsworth Rail Trail and the potential to achieve AODA compliance in these locations. Further, the consultant discussed that while most trails will not meet full AODA compliance, there were opportunities to provide AODA-compliant features, such as signage, surface materials, trail slope, or washroom facilities.

The Committee heard comments from its members supporting the initiative and interest in accessible signage and amenities such as washrooms.

JAAC09-23 Moved by: Brooke Sillaby

Seconded by: Councillor Matrosovs

**That report PDR-JAAC-22-23 regarding Grey County's Recreational Trailhead Study Phase 1 be presented for review and comment.**

Carried

## Grey Roots Museum & Archives - Draft Accessibility Plan (Jill Paterson)

Jill Patterson presented to the Committee regarding the Grey Roots Museum and Archives draft accessibility plan. The presenter reported the plan's objectives, other Grey County policies and procedures, and initiatives to provide digital access to collections, exhibits, programs, and maps. The presenter reviewed staff training, communication, signage, digital resources, and access for those who require mobility support, experience a communication barrier or those with visual or hearing impairments. Further, the presenter described future improvements, such as virtual tours, activity carts, and interactive panels.

In response to questions and comments from the Committee, Jill Patterson discussed promoting accessible services and programs and additional audio or written content and website resources to improve access for those with visual or hearing impairments.

JAAC10-23 Moved by: Brooke Sillaby

Seconded by: Councillor Matrosovs

**That the Grey Roots Museum & Archives draft Accessibility Plan be**

**presented for review and comment.**

Carried

## **Town of Hanover - Draft Multi-Year Accessibility Plan – 2023-2025 (Melissa Hilgendorff)**

Melissa Hilgendorff presented to the Committee regarding the Town of Hanover's draft Multi-Year Accessibility Plan. The presenter reviewed the plan's structure which was developed to align with legislation and support compliance. Further, the presenter highlighted plans and accessibility initiatives, including policy reviews, software or website improvements, creating educational materials and resources for staff, and developing a new splash pad and fire station.

JAAC11-23 Moved by: Christina Schnell

Seconded by: Brooke Sillaby

**That the Town of Hanover draft Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2023-2025 be presented for review and comment.**

Carried

## **Grey Highlands - Kimberley Community Hall Patio (Teresa Crawford & Mike Botelho)**

Teresa Crawford presented to the Committee regarding expansion and accessibility improvements to the Kimberley Community Hall Patio. The presenter explained that the construction was the first stage of a larger initiative and would include widening the access ramp and installing a second railing. Mike Botelho spoke to previous accessibility improvements at the site, noting that despite the age of the 113-year-old building, both storeys were accessible by elevator.

The Committee heard comments from its members supporting the initiative and recognizing the importance of an accessible space that serves several surrounding communities.

JAAC12-23 Moved by: Councillor Matrosovs

Seconded by: Andrew Edgcumbe

**That the report “Kimberly Community Hall Patio” be received; and**

**That the Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee (GCJAAC) provide input for consideration for the installation of the new concrete patio.**

Carried

## Township of Georgian Bluffs - Accessibility Improvements – Kilsyth Park/Derby Arena and Sarawak Family Park (Niall Lobley)

Niall Lobley presented to the Committee regarding accessibility improvements planned for the Sarawak Family Park, Kilsyth Park and Derby Arena. The presenter reported on the installation of Kilsyth Park and plans for trails connecting the park and the parking lot of the Derby Arena. Further, the presenter described accessibility improvements to the Sarawak Family Park to create an asphalt path throughout the park and improve access to the shoreline using Mobi-Mats. Niall Lobley described the efforts to provide the most accessible grade possible throughout the sites.

In response to questions and comments from the Committee, Niall Lobley discussed signage to communicate a trail's grade, especially when the recommended slope is not attainable, or a site's accessibility amenities and future accessibility improvements, including website improvements, park seating, playground improvements, and possible purchase of Mobi-Chairs.

JAAC13-23 Moved by: Brooke Sillaby

Seconded by: Christina Schnell

**That the Township of Georgian Bluffs report regarding accessibility improvements to the Kilsyth Park/Derby Arena and Sarawak Family Park be presented for review and comment.**

Carried

## Reference Documents

There were no reference documents for discussion.

## Other Business

There were no items of other business raised.

## Next Meeting Dates

**September 6, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.**

On motion by Councillor Matrosovs, the meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

Catherine Sholtz, Chair