

Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee June 7, 2019 – 2:00 PM

The Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee met on the above date at the Grey Highlands Administration Building with the following members in attendance:

Present: Councillor Dwight Burley, Christina Schnell, Andrew Edgcumbe, Catherine Sholtz, and Claudia Strelocke

Regrets: David Mollison and Andy Underwood

Staff

Present: Kathie Nunno, Administrative and Accessibility Coordinator; and Jacquelyn Morrison, Deputy Clerk/Legislative Coordinator

Municipal

Representatives: Brian Tocheri, the Town of Hanover; Wendi Hunter, the Township of Georgian Bluffs; Debbie Yip, the Municipality of Grey Highlands; Sarah Traynor, The Town of The Blue Mountains; Ryan Gibbons, The Town of the Blue Mountains; Debbie Anderson, the Municipality of Grey Highlands; Michael Benner, the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:08 PM.

The individuals present introduced themselves.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

Chair Burley asked the Committee members to identify themselves before speaking.

Accessibility Plan Review

The Town of The Blue Mountains Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2019-2023

Sarah Traynor provided an overview of the Town of The Blue Mountains Multi-Year Accessibility Plan. She asked for feedback on the plan.

JAAC06-19 Moved by: Andrew Edgcumbe Seconded by: Christina Schnell

That the Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee support The Town of The Blue Mountains Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2019-2023 as presented.

Carried

Reports

CCR-JAAC-11-19 Progress and Implementation of Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2018-2022

Kathie Nunno reviewed the above noted report.

Discussion occurred on the accessible door buttons and what to do if they are not working. Wendi Hunter suggested telling a building manager.

Discussion occurred on winter snow removal. Debbie Yip noted that staff receive training. She also highlighted challenges faced from the operation side. Sarah Traynor noted that municipal websites should have information on where to provide feedback.

Discussion occurred on mental health and the importance of being able to access a quiet room. Ryan Gibbons noted that many municipalities will accommodate this even if there is not a designated space. Kathie Nunno noted that every business with one or more employees is required to train their staff and volunteers on the accessible customer service standard, so everyone should be able to help. Customers need to ask for help when they need it. Discussion occurred on educating the public.

JAAC07-19 Moved by: Claudia Strellocke Seconded by: Andrew Edgcumbe

That Report CCR-JAAC-11-19 regarding the Progress and Implementation of the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2018-2020 be received for information.

Carried

Review of Site Plans

Michael Benner provided general information on how to review site plans, such as distances, scale, hedges, trees, symbols, and the focus of the plan.

Sarawak Family Park (Township of Georgian Bluffs)

The Committee reviewed the Sarawak Family Park site plan. Wendi Hunter and Chair Burley provided information on the park. Ms. Hunter noted known changes that will be made to the plans, including changing the washroom door location and adding braille to signage.

Kathie Nunno noted a draft checklist that she had created related to accessibility for site plans. She asked for feedback from the Committee.

Debbie Anderson noted that many items are caught under the building code, such as height requirements. Ms. Anderson advised that all three washrooms are presented as barrier free. The legislated requirement is for one universal barrier-free washroom. There is opportunity to change the plans to make better use of the space while meeting legislated accessibility requirements bearing in mind that the project is using an existing washroom building.

The following items were discussed:

- parking;
- accessible playground equipment;
 - the playground equipment and access to the playground is not currently accessible
- Washroom building:
 - alert strobes and emergency alerts;
 - the position of the soap dispensers. It was suggested that the dispenser be located at the side of sink and that hand dryers be located lower;
 - different options for entering the buildings, such as a larger accessible door button;
 - whether a second bar would available in the washroom; and
 - the change table. It was suggested that one washroom be a universal washroom that includes an adult change table.
- The mobi mat that goes to the water.

Georgian Bluffs will revise the plan and, if there is time, the site plan will be brought back to the Committee.

Moreau Park Pavilion – Proposed Drawings (Town of The Blue Mountains)

Ryan Gibbons noted that contract for Moreau Park Pavilion has been awarded. Discussion occurred on when the best time for consultation with the Committee should be. The Committee does not want to hold up development and welcomes the

opportunity to review plans. The earlier in the process, the better for JAAC comment. Discussion occurred on the accessibility requirements for new buildings.

Ryan Gibbons provided background information on the pavilion. The Committee suggested considering the addition of braille to signage and ensuring one washroom is universal and includes an adult change table.

Multi-Use Beach – Northwinds (Town of The Blue Mountains)

Ryan Gibbons provided an overview of the Multi-Use Beach project. The multi-use path will allow access to the park from the parking lot across the street. This project is at the final design stage and construction will begin in the fall. The Ministry of Transportation has approved the plans. The Committee discussed the slope of the path and Mr. Gibbons confirmed that the slope meets accessibility standards.

229 Bruce Street Park (Town of The Blue Mountains)

Ryan Gibbons provided information on the 229 Bruce Street Park project. He discussed the walkways and noted there is a slight slope around the centre of the park, but everything else is flat. Discussion occurred on the layout of the site and where the walkways connect. Discussion occurred on the lawn area and the Committee suggested that there be a designated seating area that is accessible. Accessible ground cover was suggested for the accessible area as grass is difficult to navigate.

Dundalk Arena (Township of Southgate)

Kathie Nunno noted that the Committee will attend the site on June 24th and suggested that members review the plans before the site tour.

Other Business

Chair Burley inquired about an update on the Meaford path. Staff will follow up.

Debbie Yip inquired about what to bring to the Committee on new development. Kathie Nunno noted that the Committee asked to receive the information as outlined in the motion passed at the first meeting. This would include trails master plans.

Grey County Administration Building

Kathie noted an update shared by Grey County housing staff on accessibility changes to the Grey County Administration Building:

1. Courtroom 1 in Provincial Offences will have an accessible door.

2. Council Chambers is accessible as the doors can be left open. The doors will automatically close if there is an alarm.
3. The Heritage Room at this point is not a possible site for an accessible door as it must remain fobbed by request of the health and safety committee.
4. It is possible to put an automatic door opener on one of the glass doors in the Valley room. These rooms are always open so there is no fob issue. There is an accessible washroom down the hall and this provides access to an accessible training room on either floor.

Committee members expressed appreciation for the follow up and felt the suggestions made sense.

Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility: Training Webinar

Municipal accessibility advisory committee members and interested municipal staff are invited to participate in another webinar series. These webinars will talk about Design for Public Spaces Standards and review best practices regarding site planning for AAC members. Staff will forward the email from the Province to the Committee members regarding this great opportunity.

2019 Accessibility Compliance Report

The online report is now available for municipalities to complete.

Next Meeting Dates

The next meetings will be:

- June 24th in Southgate for a site visit;
- and at the call of the Chair in September.

On motion by Catherine and Christina, the meeting adjourned at 3:44 PM.

Dwight Burley, Chair