Accessibility Advisory Committee

September 26, 2013 – 1:00 PM

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

Present: Chair Dwight Burley; Christina McDonald and Jim Gow

Regrets: Brooklyn Marx and Stan Arnelian

Staff Present: Ashleigh Weeden, Communications and Accessibility Coordinator; Tara Warder, Recording Secretary

Municipal Representatives: Bill Klingenburg, Chief Building Officer, Georgian Bluffs; Don Tedford, Chief Building Officer, Hanover; Carol Watson, Clerk, Township of Southgate; Amanda Healy, Health and Safety / Human Resources Coordinator, The Blue Mountains and Robert Tremblay, Clerk, Municipality of Meaford

Call to Order

Chair Burley called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There was none.

Business Arising from the Minutes

Accessibility Advisory Committee minutes dated August 29, 2013

These minutes are for information only as they were adopted by the Corporate Services
Committee on September 10, 2013.

Review, Amend and Approve Integrated Accessibility Standards Policy

Ashleigh Weeden requested the Committee’s comments on the Integrated Accessibility Standards Policy presented at the last Committee meeting.

Discussion occurred regarding self-serve kiosks and accessible parking requirements. Ms. Weeden addressed questions and comments from the Committee on enforcing the Policy, requirements for parking spaces, and the intent to adhere to the standards should kiosks be used in the future for County business. It was noted that Grey County Housing, Planning and Transportation Services departments are involved in the process related to parking space design and general public spaces design for Grey County.

Don Tedford noted that Section B651 in the Standards Council of Canada Accessible Design for the Built Environment includes specifications and helpful diagrams related to parking. This standard can be found online at the following URL: Accessible Design for the Built Environment Standards (www.scc.ca/en/standardsdb/standards/20064)

Discussion occurred respecting the challenges faced by those with disabilities and the work that is still required in terms of building standards to improve accessibility. The inadequacies of some standards were cited.

AAC04-13 Moved by: Jim Gow Seconded by: Christina McDonald

THAT the Integrated Accessibility Standards Policy be approved as presented.

Carried

Review, Amend and Approve Grey County Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

Ashleigh Weeden requested the Committee’s input and comments on the Grey County Multi-Year Accessibility Plan.

The Committee noted the importance of pushing for change in terms of updating standards to a practical and realistic level to improve accessibility for all Ontarians and the need to have increased involvement in public awareness and advocacy.
It was noted that having Ashleigh Weeden present to the lower tiers to update and encourage staff to champion accessibility would be valuable. Options for collaborative Council and staff training with Grey County were discussed.

The Committee inquired as to the possibility of whether a municipality could pass a by-law requiring a higher standard for accessibility than that required by the Ontario Building Code. If a municipality was to consider a by-law in this regard, the Accessibility Advisory Committee could provide input on the draft by-law.

AAC05-13 Moved by: Christina McDonald Seconded by: Jim Gow

THAT the Grey County Multi-Year Accessibility Plan be approved as presented.

Carried

Summary Report for Accessibility Compliance Report Submission

Ashleigh Weeden addressed the Accessibility Compliance Report Submission, required to be submitted to the Province. Ms. Weeden outlined the contents of the report.

The Committee did not express any concerns over the contents of the report.

Other Business

There was none.

Next Meeting Dates

The next meeting will be scheduled in 2014. Members will be contacted to confirm a meeting date.

On motion by Jim Gow, the meeting adjourned at 2:09 PM.

Dwight Burley, Chair