



Committee Minutes

Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee February 12, 2020 – 3:00 PM

The Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee met on the above date at the Sydenham Campus at 1130 8th Street East, Owen Sound, ON, with the following members in attendance:

Present: Councillor Dwight Burley, Andrew Edgcumbe, Catherine Sholtz, Andy Underwood

Regrets: Christina Schnell and Claudia Strel Locke

Staff

Present: Heather Morrison, Clerk; Steve Furness, Senior Economic Development Officer; Aaron Whitney, Manager of Facilities and Operations-Housing; and Kathie Nunno, Administrative and Accessibility Coordinator

Call to Order

The Clerk called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

Election of the Chair and Vice Chair

The Clerk called for nominations of the Chair of the Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee for 2020.

Moved by: Councillor Burley

Seconded by: Andy Underwood

That Catherine Sholtz be nominated as the Chair of the Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee for 2020.

On motion by Councillor Burley, nominations closed.

Catherine Sholtz accepted the nomination and was acclaimed as the Chair of the Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee for 2020.

The Clerk called for nominations for Vice Chair of the Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee for 2020.

Moved by: Catherine Sholtz

Seconded by: Councillor Burley

That Andrew Edgcumbe be nominated as the Vice Chair of the Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee for 2020.

On motion by Andy Underwood, nominations closed.

Andrew Edgcumbe accepted the nomination and was acclaimed as the Vice Chair of the Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee for 2020.

Catherine Sholtz assumed the Chair.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

Site Visit Sydenham Campus

Aaron Whitney reviewed the site plan drawings with the group. The permit has been applied for with the City of Owen Sound and the drawings have been approved.

Front Entrance

There will be new 42" double doors installed at the main entrance which will allow a larger wheelchair or scooter. The new doors will have updated barrier-free operators with one located on the outside and inside.

The vestibule door on the inside will match the outside with two 42" doors and will also have barrier-free operators. Once through the second set of doors you will be in the hallway. There are currently barrier-free operators on one other entrance door from a prior addition.

Some of the horizontal bars at the entrance will be removed which will increase the lighting.

The front entrance flooring will be replaced with non-slip ceramic tile. Other floors are being cleaned and polished.

Barrier-Free Washroom

Currently there is no barrier-free washroom. There is a small washroom with a compartmentalized toilet and sink area. A new barrier-free washroom is being designed by removing the rear wall and expanding into another two rooms. The new barrier-free washroom will exceed requirements. A baby change table and adult change table will be installed. The adult change table is the same model that is in the administration building. All of the fixtures will be barrier free and will match what is in the administration building. There is an emergency-call button.

Another 10 x 8 foot room behind the current small washroom will be renovated into a barrier-free, sloped shower with a glass wall that can be rolled into and will have a barrier-free sink as well. That room will be accessible from the main hallway across from the gym. LED lights and new ceiling lights will be installed. Faucets are motion detected and there will be motion-detected switches for the light.

With the construction, the current men's and women's washrooms will be updated with one accessible stall in each. It is possible that the exterior door will be removed as the current partial wall would provide sufficient privacy. The current design will allow for some wheelchairs to pass through, but not all.

The Committee was asked to provide accessibility-related comments for the accessible washroom and entrance of the Sydenham Campus. The group toured the facilities and provided the following comments:

Accessibility Things to Consider when Planning the Renovation

- Low vision – no special needs were identified.
- Appropriate signage was discussed.
- The committee recommended that as a leader in a learning facility, it would be ideal if the operator for the doors would be a vertical bar as it's easier to operate.
- Improved lighting could be considered. Aaron Whitney noted that some lighting is being replaced with new LED lights and the whole building was surveyed for new lighting through an energy grant.
- Grab bars in all washrooms would be beneficial
- Better outside lights were recommended. Mr. Whitney confirmed that the contractor suggested new LED lights as well even though it wasn't part of the project outline.

Councillor Burley moved that the meeting be adjourned at 3:34 PM.

Catherine Sholtz, Chair