



Committee Minutes

Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee January 21, 2021 – 2:30 PM

The Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee met on the above date through electronic means with the following members participating:

Present: Catherine Sholtz, Claudia Strel Locke, Andrew Edgcumbe, Dwight Burley, Andy Underwood and Christina Schnell

Municipal

Representatives: Jonathan Zettel, Municipality of West Grey; Melissa Hilgendorff, Town of Hanover; Sarah Traynor, Town of the Blue Mountains; Brenda Goetz, Town of Hanover and Lindsey Green, Township of Southgate

Staff

Present: Savanna Myers, Director of Economic Development, Tourism and Culture; Kathie Nunno, Administrative and Accessibility Coordinator; Heather Morrison, Clerk; Stephanie Stewart, Manager of Community Transportation; Jill Paterson, Manager of Museum and Archives; Ted Noble, Operations Manager; Aaron Whitney, Manager of Facilities and Operations; Sim Salata, Collections Manager and Tara Warder, Deputy Clerk/Legislative Coordinator

Call to Order

Heather Morrison called the meeting to order.

Election of the Chair and Vice Chair

Heather Morrison called for nominations for Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee.

JAAC01-21 Moved by: Christina Schnell

Seconded by: Claudia Strel Locke

That Councillor Burley be nominated as Chair of the Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee for 2021.

On motion by Christina Schnell, nominations closed.

Councillor Burley declined the nomination.

JAAC02-21 Moved by: Councillor Burley Seconded by: Claudia Strelocke

**That Catherine Sholtz be nominated as Chair of the Joint
Accessibility Advisory Committee for 2021.**

On motion by Councillor Burley, nominations closed.

Catherine Sholtz accepted the nomination and was acclaimed Chair.

JAAC03-21 Moved by: Catherine Sholtz Seconded by: Andy Underwood

**That Councillor Burley be nominated as Vice Chair of the Joint
Accessibility Advisory Committee for 2021.**

On motion by Councillor Burley, nominations closed.

Councillor Burley accepted the nomination and was acclaimed Vice Chair.

Catherine Sholtz then assumed the Chair.

Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations made.

Site Plan Reviews

Grey Roots Museum & Archives Store – New Build Moreston Village

Jill Paterson spoke to the proposed general store to be constructed at Moreston Village. Ms. Paterson noted that it is part of the master plan for Grey Roots and is a part of phase 4 which includes new builds for a number of replica buildings. Staff have reviewed the proposed buildings and determined that the general store is the most appropriate to move forward.

Ms. Paterson then reviewed the dimensions and details of the building, noting that it is a 23x38 storey and a half structure. The function is for demonstration purposes and will be depicted as a general store from the 1920's period.

Activities in this building will include special event demonstrations and educational programming. Staff are also exploring the feasibility of selling local products as well. This new build will enrich the Grey Roots experience, increase the number of artifacts that can be displayed and maximize repeat attendance at Grey Roots.

Staff noted that site servicing is already in place. They include natural gas and electrical. There will not be domestic water or septic. Accessible washrooms are located in the school house and the main building at Grey Roots.

Discussion occurred on the plans for future buildings and accessible washrooms for patrons. Ted Noble noted that the septic system capacity at Grey Roots was previously engineered to consider future buildings and washrooms.

General accessibility at Grey Roots and Moreston Heritage Village was discussed including the composition of the pathways and the need for smooth transitions. Staff added that there is a scooter available. Members noted that accessible aisles inside are also important.

Ms. Paterson and Mr. Noble provided an overview of the site plan for the general store as well as the exterior design.

Staff plan to mitigate any sort of lip on the entrance to the building. Staff further noted that there is an option to have a landscape ramp instead of a physical one to assist in keeping the period look and feel of the building.

Gas Bar and Car Wash – Hanover

Brenda Goetz addressed the Committee on the proposed gas bar and car wash in Hanover located at 167 10th Street in Hanover.

Ms. Goetz noted that it conforms to Section 3.8 of the Building Code. Currently there are no standards for the car wash.

Hanover Town Council passed a by-law to enter into a site plan agreement in December of 2020. The gas station will be approximately 1650 square feet and the proposed car wash will be attached to it.

Discussion occurred on whether there are electric car charging stations, and if there will be an accessible and properly sloped curb and sidewalk into the convenience store. It was noted that there are no plans for electric car charging stations and that there will be an accessible sidewalk surrounding the convenience store. The curbing at the store is sloped to the asphalt but only in one area.

Staff will bring up the points raised about accessible sidewalks and sloping to the developers of the new site.

The Committee further noted that there appears to be a curb cut at the sidewalk in front of the building. It does not indicate that there is an access aisle within the parking space on the site plan. Ms. Goetz noted that she will bring this matter forward to Mr. Tedford.

A further suggestion was to include accessible vehicle signage on the building.

Concern was expressed regarding the orientation of the accessible parking space next to the loading zone for delivery trucks. Patrons unloading from the passenger side of an accessible van would be unloading into the loading zone. This concern will be brought back to the Hanover Chief Building Official.

Committee members mentioned features of the new Esso gas station in Hanover that are not accessible. Hanover staff will investigate.

Councillor Burley left the meeting at this time.

JAAC04-21 Moved by: Christina Schnell Seconded by: Andy Underwood

That the Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee supports in principle the site plans for the gas bar and car wash in Hanover and the Grey Roots Store in Moreston Heritage Village with the following issues for the gas bar and car wash being addressed:

- **Orientation of the accessible parking space in relation to the ramp and loading zone**
- **Inclusion of an access aisle**
- **Appropriate sloped curbing on sidewalks for entrance and exit to the convenience store**
- **Inclusion of accessible vehicle signage on the building**

Carried

CCR-JAAC-02-21 Proposed Update to Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

Kathie Nunno presented the above report regarding an update to the multi-year accessibility plan. Grey County Council continues to identify rural transportation as a strategic priority. The objective is to implement a long-term strategy for coordinating a rural transit system within Grey County. Through provincial funding to support local and intercommunity transit, the County embarked on a conventional transit pilot.

Now that there is conventional transit, there are additional legislated accessibility responsibilities, one of which is updating the multi-year accessibility plan to include a plan for conventional transit.

This plan is a living document and will change from time to time as objectives are met and new developments happen. This time, the update is focusing on the addition of conventional transit

Stephanie Stewart gave an outline of the transit process and progress to date. It was noted that the system, GTR (Grey Transit Route) began operating in September and continues to run throughout the pandemic. Ms. Stewart noted that GTR buses can fulfill most requests, however if an individual requires a ramp or a lift, the transit provider, Driverseat, works with Home and Community Support Services (HCSS) to offer that service. The GTR has established a relationship with HCSS and staff are working to streamline the process with them.

It was noted that there is a tendency for people to need accessible transit more in the winter because of the snow.

There was a suggestion from the membership for all transit systems to work towards a fully accessible transit system.

It was noted that funding will be provided from the government until March of 2023.

Ms. Stewart noted that ridership has steadily increased during the operation of the GTR, excluding lockdown periods.

JAAC05-21 Moved by: Claudio Strelocke Seconded by: Christina Schnell

That Report CCR-JAAC-02-21 regarding the Update to the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2018-2020 be received, and

That the Updated Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2018 – 2022 be endorsed.

Carried

Other Business

Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) Desk Audits

Melissa Hilgendorf highlighted the Town of Hanover's experience with a recent AODA Desk Audit and wondered if any other municipalities have had experience with completing these. Hanover responded by providing documentation and referencing certain areas of these documents. She noted that the file was closed, and the auditors were happy with the Town's program.

Next Meeting Dates

To be determined.

On motion by Claudia Strelocke, the meeting adjourned at 3:52 PM.

Catherine Sholtz, Chair