

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
October 19, 2023

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, at 7:00 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Councillor George El-Jakl, Chair
- Mickayla Peters, Vice-Chair - Resident – Individuals and Organizations who Experience Disabilities Representative
- Councillor Shaun Hatfield
- Denise Nickerson, Resident – NS Works and Southwest Employment Services Representative
- Warden Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson – 7:29 p.m.

- Loretta Nickerson, Resident – Shelburne Association Supporting Inclusion Rep. – Absent

- Lesa Rossetti, Accessibility Co-ordinator
- Cameron Whiteway, Director of Public Works

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Being duly moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Being duly moved and seconded that minutes of the last meeting held August 24, 2023, be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Discontinuation of Sidewalk in front of PetroCan Station, in Barrington Passage

An update was provided on addressing the discontinuation of the sidewalk in front of the PetroCan Station, in Barrington Passage.

ARE YOU READY ? EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES WEBINAR

On September 20, 2023, the Nova Scotia Accessibility Directorate hosted a Webinar entitled “Are you Ready ? Emergency Preparedness for Persons with Disabilities”. Each member was provided with a copy of the slides from the webinar and general discussion took place.

Copies of the Guides entitled “Are you Ready ? An Emergency Preparedness Guide for Persons with Disabilities and Older Adults in Nova Scotia” and “Emergency Preparedness Guide for People with Disabilities / Special Needs” were provided to members.

Copies of both Guides will be made available at the Municipal Library and a link will be placed on our website and facebook page.

BUILT ENVIRONMENT ACCESSIBILITY STANDARD

Accessibility Nova Scotia hosted a webinar on October 12, 2023 entitled “Accessibility in the Built Environment”. Copies of the slides have been forwarded to members. The Proposed Built Environment Accessibility Standard is now available for review and comment. The Province is asking for feedback by October 30, 2023.

2022-2025 ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

In advance of the meeting members were provided with a copy of the 2022-2025 Municipal Accessibility Plan. The 5 areas of focus were reviewed and members were brought up to date on actions taken.

Members were asked to give some thought to action items listed in the Plan and to provide suggestions as to items to be addressed next.

During discussion it was agreed that information be put together on sign language services in the area.

Much discussion took place on how to get program information out to residents. One idea put forward was radio advertisements and facebook ads. These two possibilities will be explored.

FORMATION OF 2024 ACCESS AWARENESS WEEK COMMITTEE

It was suggested that a 2024 Access Awareness Week Committee be formed to plan events to be held during Access Awareness Week in 2024 - May 26th - June 1st.

It was agreed that members be given time to consider participating on the committee and were asked to notify the Accessibility Coordinator by January, 2024.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY

Members were advised that the Accessibility Directorate is creating a roster of Nova Scotians with disabilities who are interested in reviewing and providing input on future projects – such as resources, workshops and other projects about accessibility. Members were asked to share this information with anyone they feel may be interested.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

There were no agenda items brought forward.

Page 3, Accessibility Advisory Committee, October 19, 2023.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held when there are sufficient agenda items.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting