

## **Clarington Accessibility Advisory Committee**

### **Minutes for the meeting of**

**November 3, 2021 6:30 p.m.**

### **Via Microsoft Teams**

If this information is required in an alternate format, please contact the Accessibility Coordinator at 905-623-3379 ext. 2131.

**Present:** Shea-Lea Latchford, Chair  
Sylvia Jaspers-Fayer, Vice-Chair  
Sarah Taylor  
Tim Van Leeuwen  
Sarah McConaghy  
Catherine McConaghy  
Pinder DaSilva  
Deb Kalogris  
Marina Ross  
Councillor Janice Jones

**Also Present:** Mariano Perini, Director/Fire Chief, Clarington Emergency Services  
Jeannette Whynot, Accessibility Coordinator

#### **1. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m.

#### **2. Declaration of Interest**

None

#### **3. Review of Previous Meeting Minutes**

Moved by Sylvia Jaspers-Fayer; seconded by Marina Ross

That the minutes of the meeting of October 6, 2021 be approved.

**Carried**

#### **4. Guest Speaker: Mariano Perini, Director/Fire Chief of Clarington Emergency Services**

##### **Q&A, open conversation:**

Mariano Perini introduced himself to the Committee and briefly discussed his vision for the future.

- Projects working on: Focusing on training especially looking at different learning styles for staff; looking outside for some guidance in developing different methods for writing tests.
- Hoping to reach out to AAC to support the plan to make the organization more inclusive.
- Traditionally been at top-down organization but looking to shift that and learn from a bottom-up perspective for the purpose of making Clarington more progressive.
- Shifted from in-person to on-line training and recognizes that not everyone can function as well with on-line training so looking at different options and adaptations.
- Education focus - looking outward as an organization at getting out into the community and assess different aspects of the community– diversity, accessibility and conflict resolution, especially with things such as mental health.
- Will be reviewing the summer camp program and creating something for kids with disabilities. Pinder offered any support from Abilities Centre staff to help set up the summer camp program
- Door-to-door program fire safety – they have worked with GCC to identify families with specific physical or mental needs so when the fire fighters are responding they already know about the specialized needs the household may require.

The Committee Thanked Mariano for taking the time to attend the meeting and offered their ongoing support for the abovementioned projects/ideas.

#### **5. Business Arising from Previous Meeting Minutes**

##### **5.1 December 3<sup>rd</sup> – International Day of Persons with Disabilities**

In recognition of December 3<sup>rd</sup>, International Day of Persons with Disabilities, Jeannette has requested a Flag Raising at Town Hall. The Municipality will also do social media posts all week highlighting different accessible features/programs/services. We will not be conducting a survey at this time – a survey will be done in 2022/23 in preparation for the new multi-year accessibility plan.

There will be a online learning session for children aged 8-14 (approximately) in partnership with the Clarington Public Library and the Rick Hansen Foundation. It will be hosted by the Library on Thursday December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 through zoom. Registration is required, but is free. Details to follow

On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, Municipal staff will have the opportunity to attend a webinar/panel discussion hosted by the Rick Hansen Foundation.

## **5.2 Sidewalk Connectivity Update**

Jeannette advised that the Public Works Manager of Infrastructure is working with his staff to gather info on this topic. He will attend the December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting to discuss with the Committee.

## **5.3 Trail Map Update**

The maps on the website have been updated with correct language, symbols etc. Next, will update the charging stations.

## **6. New Business**

### **6.4 January 2022 meeting**

With the holidays, Jeannette proposed moving the January meeting from the first to the second week. It was mutually agreed that this was a good idea. The January meeting will take place on January 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm via Teams.

### **6.5 National AccessAbility Week 2022**

Jeannette asked the Committee to think about how to recognize National AccessAbility Week, which is held the last week of May each year. It will remain a standing agenda item so we can continue to work on events for the week.

## **7. Other Business**

Shea-Lea asked about a new West Indian Store in downtown Bowmanville. She noted that the aisles are quite narrow. Shea-Lee wondered if they had to come to AAC for approval. Jeannette mentioned that they didn't need a site plan but only needed a building permit. The building permit doesn't look at how aisles and shelves are set up.

## **8. Adjournment**

Moved by Sarah Taylor, seconded by Deb Kalogris,

That the meeting be adjourned

**Carried**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:11pm.

**Next meeting: Wednesday December 1, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. via Microsoft Teams**