

The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes
Minutes
Kawartha Lakes Accessibility Advisory Committee
Meeting

KLAAC2023-04
Wednesday, December 13, 2023
4:00 P.M.
Electronic Participation Meeting

Members:
Councillor Charlie McDonald
Frederico (Arbee) Buenafe
Diane Engelstad
Matthew Kuiken
Katelyn Lowes
Crystal Morrissey
Elizabeth Peeters
Mary Jean Porteous
Joli Scheidler-Benns

Accessible formats and communication supports are available upon request. The City of Kawartha Lakes is committed to accessibility for persons with disabilities. Please contact AgendaItems@kawarthalakes.ca if you have an accessible accommodation request.

1. Call to Order

Diane Engelstad called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Councillor C. McDonald, Diane Engelstad, Elizabeth Peeters, Mary Jean Porteous, Joli Scheidler-Benns, Frederico (Arbee) Buenafe, Katelyn Lowes were in attendance.

Absent:

Matthew Kuiken joined the meeting at 4:02 p.m. Crystal Morrissey was absent.

2. Administrative Business

2.1 Adoption of Agenda

Moved By E. Peeters

Seconded By Councillor McDonald

That the agenda be adopted as circulated.

Carried

2.2 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest disclosed.

2.3 Adoption of Minutes from Previous Meeting

That the minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting held on September 28, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

3. Deputations/Presentations

4. Correspondence

5. News/Updates from Working Groups, Staff and Council

5.1 Accessibility Officer Update

N. McKeen- Informed the committee that the Lindsay Recreation Complex has confirmed free admission for those assisting loved ones with special needs. This includes cognitive and brain injury. Discounts are available to those on ODSP.

The CAM team would like to meet with KLAAC in the new year to discuss accessibility and how it relates to the Communications Master Plan. This meeting will likely be scheduled during Q2.

Diane Engelstad has completed her term as chair. A new chair will be elected during the first meeting of 2024.

5.1.1 Municipal Accessibility Master Plan

N. McKeen- Shared that the draft Master Plan will be presented to the Senior Management Team in January. Suggested that the KLAAC participate in Lunch and Learns and set up annual meetings with BIA.

E. Peeters- Informed the committee the previous Accessibility Officer planned Lunch and Learns that were unsuccessful due to lack of attendance. May be successful if they mandate that staff attends. Strongly suggests removing this from the plan. Previously, short internal communications were sent out to staff which lead to better staff engagement. Suggested continued education opportunities for employees regarding accessibility.

Councillor McDonald- Supports this idea.

K.Lowes- Inquired if education opportunities are restricted to the City, or if the public and community groups can attend. Suggested creating a survey to tailor educational sessions.

E. Peeters- Shared that in the past, KLAAC have met with various community groups and they were responsive. An evening event was preferred, and the main interest was in lived experiences and shared knowledge from those who face these challenges.

N.McKeen- Acknowledges that the Master Plan is still a draft document, and that final editing still needs to be completed. Went through each heading for general comments.

KLAAC had no comment on Accessible Customer Services Standard, Information and Communication Standards, Information and Communication Standards and Employment Standards.

D. Engelstad- Concerned with how little there is regarding the Transportation Standard in the Master Plan since it is a high priority. Inquired if we need to add more to this section.

M. Porteous- Reminded KLAAC that we currently have a transportation plan in place and a third party is working to determine how to improve this plan in Lindsay.

E. Peeters- Shared that the KLAAC will be consulted on the Transportation Master Plan.

D. Engelstad- Inquired if the following can be included in the master plan: That the KLAAC will be consulted and have the ability to contribute when creating the Master Plan. In regards to the Design for Public Spaces Standard stated that AODA standards need to be met.

M. Porteous- Suggested a brochure for developers that lists standards that need to be met before approval to develop.

D. Engelstad- Would like something written into Appendix A, Planned Projects and Tasks for 2024 to 2029, that the brochure needs to be included, perhaps a policy.

N. McKeen- Stated that a higher level approach is generally taken. Perhaps a general statement would be more suitable and more detail can be provided in yearly pamphlets to be more specific.

5.1.2 Annual Committee Priorities 2024

Increased public out reach to community groups and continued participation in corporate initiatives surrounding accessibility (ex. Transportation Master Plan).

5.1.3 Accessibility Consultations

N. McKeen- IDEA Partner will lead on behalf of the KLAAC. Looking to build an accessibility ramp at the Kawartha Lakes Museum. Details will be provided to the Public Spaces group in the new year.

The Service Centre modernization at City Hall will include new accessible service counters, visual signing, sound proofing, accessible meeting rooms and an accessible bathroom. Timeline January 2024.

Will continue to work with departments with accessibility queries.

5.2 Public Awareness (Public Education/Employment/Information&Communication)

No update.

5.3 Public Spaces (Parks, Built Environment and Transportation (Transit))

No update.

5.4 Councillor's Update

Councillor McDonald shared that the budget was passed. Accessibility came up in every aspect.

Moved By Councillor McDonald

Seconded By M. Porteous

That the reports provided under agenda items 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, and 5.4 be received by Kawartha Lakes Accessibility Advisory Committee for information purposes.

Carried

6. New or Other Business

No new business.

7. Next Meeting

To be determined. Towards end of January 2024.

7.1 2024 Committee and Sub-Committee Meeting Schedule

IDEA Partner would like to schedule predetermined meetings and process for subgroups.

8. Adjournment

Moved By M. Porteous

Seconded By Councillor McDonald

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting adjourn at 4:48 p.m.

Carried