

MINUTES
ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSIVITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2022 10:00 A.M.
ONLINE MEETING (ZOOM)

PRESENT: Kelly Elliott, Chair/Council Representative
Tom Heeman, Council Representative
Jesse Farquharson, Vice-Chair/Community Representative
Rick Nolan, Community Representative
Katy Morrow, Community Representative
Steve MacDonald, Director of Community Services & Facilities/Staff Representative
Alan Bushell, Legislative Officer/Staff Resource/Recording Secretary

ABSENT: Michelle Coghlin, Community Representative
Christopher Morello, Community Representative
Patricia Rivers, Community Representative

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:42 a.m.

1. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

No pecuniary interests were disclosed at this time.

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

A) November 18, 2021

Moved by: J. Farquharson
Seconded by: R. Nolan
(Resolution # AIAC-01-2022)

THAT the minutes of the Accessibility and Inclusivity Advisory Committee (AIAC) meeting held on November 18, 2021 be adopted as presented. Carried.

3. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

None.

4. REPORTS OF STAFF

None.

5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

A) Enabling Accessibility Fund (per J. Farquharson)

- Youth accessibility leadership fund, J. Farquharson, applied for this grant
- Bluetooth beacons, as part of a BlindSquare system allow the visually impaired to navigate public settings. Suggested adding them to the park.

- Municipality having ongoing discussions with the Grant organizers and defining how we can qualify
- Concerns regarding the ongoing network maintenance, in that a \$1000.00 fee is required that is outside the boundaries of the grant
- Recommendation from staff to use the budget set aside for the committee
- AIAC has a budget of \$2500.00
- No need to go back to council, as the budget is within the committee's delegated power

After some discussion.

Moved by: K. Morrow

Seconded by: J. Farquharson
(Resolution # AIAC-02-2022)

THAT the Enabling Accessibility Fund report, be received for information;
AND THAT the committee approves \$1000.00 from the Accessibility and Inclusivity Advisory Committee's budget towards the annual network cost of the BlindSquare system. Carried.

B) Accessible Playground (per T. Heeman)

Councillor Heeman, as chair of a Accessible Playground subcommittee, provided feedback on the 4 proposals the Evaluation Committee feels should be awarded the project.

- A Request for Proposal, was issued
- A wishlist for features was created, and later edited through an addendum for features that benefit senior members of the community
- Provided a breakdown of the weighting for choosing the successful bidder
- 4 groups bid, and provided detailed applications for the Request for Proposal
- Openspace Solutions Inc. was the staff selected bid, as it scored the highest of the preset metrics
- Possible additional grants can assist with the rubber surfaces
- A goal is in place, to have this ready for Canada Day
- The items inside the park are still open to negotiations, with possible additions/substitutions

Moved by: K. Morrow

Seconded by: R. Nolan
(Resolution # AIAC-03-2022)

THAT the report regarding the Accessible Playground, be received for information;
AND THAT the Accessibility and Inclusivity Advisory Committee recommends to Council that RFP-TC-007-22, for the Dorchester Park Accessible and Inclusive

Playground Design-Build project, be awarded to Openspace Solutions for a cost of \$328,000.00, including non-rebated HST, inclusive of non-rebated HST. Carried.

C) Sidewalk Plowing (per K. Elliott)

K. Elliot and S. MacDonald provided an update that included the following information:

- Concerns regarding snow removal of at the Wye Creek Bridge in Thorndale have been resolved. The bridge's walkway is not wide enough for the sidewalk clearing machines. Staff are now manually shoveling
- Plans in place to consider budgeting to clear park walkways, but some logistics need to be overcome. Issues include how to effectively, safely mark the pathways.
- Considering purchase of an additional sidewalk clearing machine for next year
- Subcontractors have historically plowed the sidewalks, lack of interest from contractors has led to the Municipality taking over this service, and considering additional machinery to address this issue
- Concerns raised that providing a service sets a precedence and expectations that it will continue to be provided.

Moved by: T. Heeman

Seconded by: K. Morrow

(Resolution # AIAC-04-2022)

THAT the report regarding Sidewalk Plowing, be received for information. Carried.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8. NEW BUSINESS

A) London-Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership

No update at this time. Will be an agenda item next meeting.

9. SCHEDULING OF MEETINGS

Next Meeting April 22, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Accessibility and Inclusivity Advisory Committee

Monday, February 7, 2022

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There being no further business to discuss, it was:

Moved by: R. Nolan

Seconded by: K. Morrow

(Resolution # AIAC-05-2022)

THAT the meeting adjourn at 11:15 a.m. Carried.