



Accessibility Advisory Committee

Minutes - September 14, 2009

GODERICH, ONTARIO



HURON COUNTY ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HCAAC)

Goderich, Ontario.
September 14th, 2009.

The Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee (HCAAC) met in the Court House Council Chambers, in Goderich. All members of the Board were present except for Member Rosemary Armstrong and Member Lorie Falconer. Chair D. Kelly called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Director of Human Resources Darcy Michaud introduced Sarah Clemons, Accessibility Co-ordinator for the County of Huron to the members of the HCAAC.

MOTION:

Moved by: Member B. Fisher and Seconded by: Member E. Bezaire:

THAT:

The Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee do now go into a "Closed to the Public Session" at 9:38 a.m. under Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended to discuss an item which relates to:

- personal matters about an identifiable individual including municipal or local board employees;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The following staff members remain in attendance: CAO Larry C. Adams; Director of Human Resources Darcy Michaud, Accessibility Co-ordinator Sarah Clemons and Clerk Barbara L. Wilson.

CARRIED

MOTION:

Moved by: Member G. McLachlan and Seconded by: Member L. Harper

THAT:

The Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee rise from "Closed to the Public Session" at 9:42 a.m.; with no report.

CARRIED

MOTION:

Moved by: Member Joe Austin and Seconded by: Member Ed Bezaire:

THAT:

The minutes of the June 8th, 2009 Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

2. Business Arising from the Minutes:

a) Strategy Session:

Darcy Michaud, Director of Human Resources, requested the Committee offer their thoughts and comments on the Strategic Plan, the role of HCAAC and the HCAAC Co-ordinator.

There was a great deal of discussion regarding the Strategic Plan and the accomplishments of the Committee. The budget for 2010 was discussed. Disappointment was expressed by some members of the Committee in terms of where the Committee is to date. There is no clear mandate that has been decided upon by the members; is HCAAC an advisory or an action Committee? Different reasons for being a member of the Committee were shared by a couple of members. A suggestion was for the each member of the Committee to review the five challenges or their top five important areas for accomplishment and forward them to Sarah Clemons.

A request from one member was for a Report of the Committee's accomplishments to be done for County Council to review and possibly agree to increase HCAAC's 2010 budget.

MOTION:

Moved by: Member M. McCauley and Seconded by: Member E. Bezaire:

THAT:

The members of HCAAC forward the five challenges to Accessibility Co-ordinator Sarah Clemons by Monday September 21st,

AND FURTHER THAT:

Accessibility Co-ordinator Sarah Clemons will compile the submissions for the Committee to meet and discuss prior to mid October.

CARRIED

b) Accessibility from a Tourism Perspective:

Glen McLachlan reported on the conversation he recently had with the Chamber of Commerce from Frankenmuth Michigan. Mr. McLachlan is very pleased with the accessibility in Frankenmuth. He advised that the Town of Frankenmuth put a plan into place in 1990-1991 for all businesses to move the parking away from the main street in front of their stores to laneways and parking lots behind the main street. It was met with some challenges, however through time Frankenmuth has become a very popular tourist destination. Every store is equipped with ramps instead of stairs for accessibility. He also reported that the Chamber of Commerce and the

Tourism for Frankenmuth are located in the middle of town and share public washrooms which are open 24 hours a day. The Town prides itself on offering cleanliness, friendliness and accessibility.

Glen McLachlan has been invited by the Chamber of Commerce from Frankenmuth to come for a guided tour sometime.

3. New Business:

a) Sarah Clemons, Accessibility Coordinator provided an interim report of her activities.

Accessibility Co-ordinator Sarah Clemons delivered a power point presentation to the Committee members on the training that she is currently delivering to the entire staff of Huron County. The accessibility customer service training must be completed prior to January 1st, 2010.

There were some comments on alternative communication to be used in the power-point presentation. Sarah Clemons appreciated the input from the members and will alter her presentation to reflect the feedback.

b) Accessibility Co-ordinator Sarah Clemons reported on International Day for Persons with Disabilities. This will be a joint effort between the County of Huron and HCAAC. She would like to discuss at a future meeting, plans/ideas to make press/media and public aware of efforts in the area of accessibility.

c) Darcy Michaud reviewed the HCAAC budget/financials. Committee members were given an opportunity to ask questions.

Other Business:

Accounts and Financial Statements:

Accounts for July and August (only to August 27th) 2009 totalling \$259.29 were reviewed.

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The financial statement for the period ending August 31st, 2009 were reviewed.

	REVENUE		EXPENDITURES		COUNTY CONTRIBUTION	
	Actual	Prorated	Actual	Prorated	Actual	Prorated
Accessibility Committee			11,864	36,877	11,864	36,877

MOTION:

Moved by: Member E. Bezaire and Seconded by: Member M. McCauley:

THAT:

The accounts and financial statement for the period ending August 31, 2009 be received.

CARRIED

Next Meeting:

The next two meetings have been agreed upon by the members of the Committee. Tuesday October 13th at 9:30 a.m. and Monday November 9th, at 9:30 a.m. are the dates.

Members of the Committee were given an opportunity to ask questions and make comments. Glen McLachlan requested some clarification regarding accessible parking and the signage. Staff advised that each municipality is responsible for the accessibility signage in their towns and villages.

Bob Fisher questioned why the ODA Working Group did not get a copy of the blueprints for REACH centre in Clinton to review. He also commented on the lack of accessible parking spots and no signage in one of the municipalities in Huron County.

MOTION:

Moved by: Member G. McLachlan and Seconded by: Member B. Fisher:

THAT:

HCAAC agreed to direct staff to forward a letter to all municipal Councils in Huron County reminding them that HCAAC is available to assist them with information to meet accessibility standards with any renovation of an existing facility or the construction of a new facility.

CARRIED

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A reminder of the Accessible Playground at Colborne Central Public School grand opening on Wednesday September 23rd.

Accessibility Co-ordinator Sarah Clemons inquired if any member of the Committee were planning to attend the public review of the AODA with Charles Beer, in London, on October 20th. Sarah Clemons intends to attend as a presenter between 2:00 and 5:00 p.m.

Adjournment:

MOTION:

Moved by: Member J. Austin and Seconded by: Member B. Fisher:

THAT:

The Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee adjourn at 12:11 p.m.

CARRIED

Chair D. Kelly