



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT
MINUTES
ACCESS AWARENESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 14, 2010
4:00 P.M.
Council Chambers, Esquimalt Municipal Hall

PRESENT: Brian Gray – Chair
Lorne Argyle – Vice-Chair
Councillor Meagan Brame
Emmy Labonté
Eleanor Calder
Paul Newcombe
Barbara Amberstone
Bob McKie – Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Representative
Roxanne Lypka – BC Transit

STAFF: Andy Katschor – Parks Manager (Staff Liaison)
Jeff Miller – Director of Engineering and Public Works (Staff Liaison)
Deborah Liske – Recording Secretary

REGRETS: Councillor Don Linge
Daniel Jenkins
Wanda Le Roux – BC Transit

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gray called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

2. LATE ITEMS

The following late items were introduced:

1. Add **6. NEW BUSINESS** (1) Grant Application to agenda and renumber accordingly.
2. Add to Agenda item **6. NEW BUSINESS** (2) Request from SPARC BC
3. Add to Agenda item **6. NEW BUSINESS** (3) Report from Councillor Brame

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Bob McKie, seconded by Eleanor Calder that the agenda of the Access Awareness Advisory Committee meeting of April 14, 2010 be approved with the inclusion of the late agenda items.
The motion **CARRIED**.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Brame, seconded by Vice Chair Argyle that the minutes of the Access Awareness Advisory Committee meeting of March 10, 2010 be approved as presented.
The motion **CARRIED**.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

- (1) From the February 10, 2010 Access Awareness Advisory Committee Meeting – Request to Appoint Representative to Advisory Planning Commission
 - (a) Memorandum from Carollyne Evans, Manager of Corporate Services, dated March 18, 2010, Re: Request to Appoint Representative to Advisory Planning Commission

Chair Gray reviewed the memorandum from Carollyne Evans, Manager of Corporate Services, noting Council did not approve the committee's request for an appointment to the Advisory Planning Commission. Vice Chair Argyle noted his interest in attending Advisory Planning Commission meetings on behalf of the committee. All committee members were in favour of Vice Chair Argyle attending Advisory Planning Commission meetings.

Deborah Liske, Recording Secretary will provide Ms. Evans with the necessary contact information for Vice Chair Argyle.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

- (1) Parks and Recreation Grant Application (**Late Item**)

Andy Katschor, Staff Liaison, reported the application to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities for a grant to purchase senior friendly outdoor fitness equipment was unsuccessful.

The Parks and Recreation Department is seeking support for an application to the New Horizons for Seniors Program for a grant to purchase the senior friendly outdoor fitness equipment

Moved by Bob McKie, seconded by Vice Chair Argyle that the Access Awareness Advisory Committee support the submission of the application by the Parks and Recreation Department to the New Horizons for Seniors Program for a grant to purchase senior friendly outdoor fitness equipment.

The motion **CARRIED**.

- (2) Request from SPARC BC (**Late Item**)

Andy Katschor, Staff Liaison, reported Karen Lai of SPARC BC will be making a presentation to Council on Monday, April 19th about Access Awareness Day. Ms. Lai requested to meet with the Access Awareness Advisory Committee on the same day.

Mr. Katschor proposed Ms. Lai meet with the Measuring-Up Gold Star Program sub-committee which are scheduled to meet on April 19th. Committee members discussed and noted their interest in meeting with Ms. Lai. Mr. Katschor will coordinate a time for Ms. Lai to address committee members prior to her attendance at the Council meeting on April 19th.

- (3) Report from Councillor Brame (**Late Item**)

Councillor Brame reported she attended the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities conference on the weekend and learned of a grant opportunity offered by the Municipal Insurance Association of BC. The new risk management grant program is designed to assist MIA members in financing risk management initiatives to reduce liability claims. Andy Katschor, Staff Liaison will review this grant opportunity.

Councillor Brame also reported receiving feedback from past committee member, Meagan Duncan, suggesting the committee organize walks in different areas of the municipality to receive feedback on accessibility. The walks would be open to anyone. Individuals who utilize wheelchairs, walkers and strollers would be encouraged to participate in order to receive feedback on problem areas. Problem areas could then be noted and a list compiled.

Another suggestion received from Ms. Duncan included inviting Medichair and Motion Specialties to participate at Access Awareness Day.

Committee members discussed the suggestions.

Andy Katschor, Staff Liaison noted staff are always available to receive feedback from residents and encouraged committee members to provide feedback.

Chair Gray noted the Esquimalt Remembers walking routes and Councillor Brame noted the Arts, Culture and Special Events Advisory Committee will be hosting walking tours from June until September.

Barbara Amberstone noted the difficulty in ascertaining issues without problem areas being reviewed by those that are most affected.

Chair Gray suggested the committee review the concept of establishing accessibility walking tours.

7. REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES / WORK PLAN ITEMS

(1) Measuring-Up Gold Star Program

No report.

(2) Access Awareness Day

Andy Katschor, Staff Liaison reported wheelchair curling has confirmed participation. Mr. Katschor also reported he had just learned of wheelchair bocce and will attempt to contact organizers to invite their participation.

Vice Chair Argyle noted he has not received responses from organizations that participated at the Paralympic Torch Relay. Vice Chair Argyle also stressed the importance of information about Access Awareness days being coordinated in a timely fashion in order to promote the event.

Andy Katschor, Staff Liaison confirmed the following activities will be taking place at Access Awareness Day:

- Displays from various organizations
- Demonstration sports will be highlighted - rugby is confirmed
- Food and beverage concession will be hosted
- Public address by Mayor officially proclaiming day
- Measuring-Up Gold Star Program Award recognition

Mr. Katschor and Vice Chair Argyle will meet to review activities for the event. Chair Gray will confirm Medichair's attendance.

(3) Buccaneer Days

Bob McKie confirmed a table for the Access Awareness Advisory Committee has been reserved for Buccaneer Days.

(4) Accessible Housing

Chair Gray confirmed he will be acquiring materials for the committees table at Buccaneer Days and will also bring the information to the next committee meeting.

(5) Bylaw Violation Education

(a) Street Parking that Creates Obstructions and Safety Issues

Committee members discussed the need to communicate concerns to municipal staff.

Committee members discussed wheelchair parking. Andy Katschor, Staff Liaison noted the accessibility audit revealed various business locations wheelchair ramps are not located in easily accessible locations for wheelchair parking spaces.

(6) Paralympic Torch Relay

Chair Gray reported attendance for the Paralympic torch relay was between 1500 to 2000 people.

Councillor Brame enquired whether the torch presented to the municipality at the Paralympic torch relay has been received back. It was suggested the torch be displayed at Access Awareness Day.

8. REPORT FROM BC TRANSIT REPRESENTATIVE

Roxanne Lypka attended the meeting in Wanda LeRoux's absence.

Ms. Lypka requested confirmation from the committee on transits presence at Access Awareness Day and Buccaneer Days. Committee members confirmed they would like transit to participate at both Access Awareness Day and Buccaneer Days. Committee members also noted a request for free advertising on the interior overhead display boards of buses routed in and out of Esquimalt. Ms. Lypka will contact the transit marketing department to determine if this is a possibility. It was noted it is not guaranteed which buses will be assigned to which routes on any given day.

It was noted a table would need to be reserved for transit at Buccaneer Days. Bob McKie to confirm.

Vice Chair Argyle noted new buses were introduced for the Olympics and enquired whether one could be made available to showcase at Access Awareness Day. Ms. Lypka will make the enquiry once it is determined exactly which bus Vice Chair Argyle was referring to.

A committee member requested an update on the timeline for installation of audible stop signals. Ms. Lypka reported transit is currently collecting information and plotting stops. Ms. Lypka will contact the transit information technology department on progress and report back.

Ms. Lypka reported a schedule update will be taking place in June and some trips may be affected.

Ms. Lypka further reported the # 6 late night service trial is finished and the Victoria Regional Transit Commission will be reviewing and considering that service at its May meeting.

Councillor Brame enquired whether it would assist the commission in making a favourable decision to reinstate the late night service on the # 6 bus if the committee writes a letter of support of the service. Ms. Lypka will enquire and report back to the committee.

Councillor Brame also noted some bus stops on the phase 1 upgrade of Craigflower Road (south side of road between Garthland Road and Forshaw Road) do not have pull-outs, which impedes traffic flow and creates safety issues. Councillor Brame enquired about the process and / or policy that determines which types of bus stops are installed – a pull-out versus a road lane stop. Councillor Brame further enquired as to who makes the recommendation? If it is not transit that makes the recommendation who does the planning?

Ms. Lypka noted transit welcomes suggestions for bus stop improvements and will need to follow-up on Councillor Brame's enquiry.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Access Awareness Advisory Committee will take place on Wednesday, May 12, 2010.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Brian Gray, Chair

This 12th day of May, 2010