



ARNPRIOR

**Minutes of the Accessibility and Age Friendly Advisory Committee Meeting
September 4th, 2024
6:30 PM
Nick Smith Centre**

Committee and Staff Attendance

Committee Members Present:

Tina MacLaren, Chair
Tom Burnette, Councillor
Amanda Deschamps, Committee Member
Dave Furgoch, Committee Member
Amanda Harris, Committee Member
Sarah Tait, Committee Member

Town Staff Present:

Oliver Jacob, Deputy Clerk
Graeme Ivory, Director of Recreation
Kaitlyn Wendland, Client Services
Coordinator

Committee Members Absent:

Lynn Cloutier, Vice Chair

1. Call to Order

Tina MacLaren, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM and welcomed those present.

2. Roll Call

The roll was called, with all Members of the Committee being present except Lynn Clouthier.

3. Land Acknowledgment

Tina MacLaren asked everyone to take a moment to acknowledge and show respect for the Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of the land we operate on, by stating:

“I would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we work and gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Anishinaabe People. This Algonquin Nation have lived on this land for thousands of years, long before the arrival of the European settlers, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to be present in this territory.”

4. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution Number 014-24
Moved by Dave Furgoch
Seconded by Sarah Tait

Be It Resolved That the agenda for the Accessibility and Age Friendly Advisory Committee Meeting dated September 4th, 2024 be adopted.

Resolution Carried

5. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None

6. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

Resolution Number 015-24
Moved by Sarah Tait
Seconded by Amanda Deschamps

Be It Resolved That the minutes for the June 5th, 2024 Accessibility and Age Friendly Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

Resolution Carried

7. Presentations/ Delegations

None

8. Matters Tabled/ Deferred/ Unfinished Business

None

9. Staff Reports

None

10. New Business

a) Accessibility Tours

Committee Members met on site to perform tours of Town facilities to provide feedback on accessibility of the facilities and amenities within them. The following facilities were toured this evening, with a summary of the suggestions from Committee Members noted.

i. Nick Smith Centre

- The inadequate turning radius in the washrooms should be addressed in future renovations and support was shared for universal washrooms, especially for those with special needs and near spaces like the Nick Smith Centre Community Hall where groups like the Dementia Society of Ottawa and Renfrew County offers programming regularly.

- All emergency exits should be reviewed to ensure that they are accessible (without lips and steps) and that accessible ramps are installed where warranted.
- While the Arena Slab Replacement Project will assist with equipment storage, staff should aim to limit congestion and equipment storage in open areas (like the lobby of the Community Hall), particularly for those who may have visual impairment(s).
- The non-functional water fountain in the Community Hall lobby should be replaced with a water bottle refilling station due to its proximity to the Community Hall and its programming.
- There is a lip on the west side of the front entry doors into the main lobby and the door plate should be altered to ensure a smooth transition to the floor mats.
- There should be a table underneath the battery recycling boxes to ensure that they are at an appropriate level for all users.
- Reflective tape should be added to all sharp corners on countertops at the canteen and serving counters within the main lobby.
- There is a broken pipe in one of the stalls at the female washroom off the main lobby.
- There is a lip around the mat at the old pool entry doors (no longer used) that may cause a tripping hazard. Reflective tape should be added or the floor replaced to reduce this hazard.
- There are small blue concrete raised areas in the changerooms (where lockers may have historically existed). These are tripping hazards for those with low vision and reflective tape should be added to these areas. They may also be considered for the future placement of accessible seats / benches in the changerooms.
- There is a lip between the showers and the pool deck area that does not allow for a zero-degree entry into the pool area.
- The accessible door openers between the showers and changerooms were not functioning.

- A wider bench and/or a bench with a back on it would provide a more accessible options for individuals using the pool changerooms.
- The addition of an accessible mobility aid in the change room showers would be a beneficial addition (similar to the Access Chair at the Robert Simpson Park beach). A portable wheelchair in vinyl material would be easiest for users and staff cleaning.
- The emergency door sign on the eastern side of the pool area is too high and obstructed by the flags hung from the ceiling.
- Reflective tape should be added to all sharp corners on countertops within the pool viewing room.
- Accessible door openers should be added from the pool viewing room into Arena B as well as on all doors within Arenas A and B, including in changerooms and to access emergency / parking exits.
- Identify timelines for accessibility upgrades to Arena B changerooms in the Long Range Capital Forecast (LRCF).

b) Roundtable Discussion

None

11. Adjournment

Resolution Number 016-24

Moved by Sarah Tait

Seconded by Amanda Harris

That the Accessibility and Age Friendly Advisory Committee adjourn at 7:54 PM.

Resolution Carried