

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY MEETING

Minutes of the City of Prince George Advisory Committee on Accessibility meeting, held in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room of City Hall, 1100 Patricia Boulevard, Prince George, BC, on September 12, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

### PRESENT:

Ms. Andrea **Palmer**, Chair; Mr. Chris **Gobbi**; Mr. Justin **Turner**; Mr. Shane **Bunce**; Mr. Kanoa **Robinson**; Ms. Jesse **Blewett**; and Ms. Brandi **Stiles**.

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Tristin **Deveau**, Planner/Staff Liaison; Mr. Ian **Sinclair**, Engineering Assistant/Staff Liaison; and Ms. Nakisha **Bauer-Baumeister**, Guest Presenter <5:03 p.m. to 5:40 p.m.>.

#### **A. Commencement**

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m.

#### **B. Adoption of Agenda**

- B.1** Moved by Mr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Bunce, that the agenda for the September 12, 2018 Advisory Committee on Accessibility, be amended to add "Accessible Transportation Advisory Committee" as item D.2 and to move Work Plan Discussion to item D.3, and that the agenda, BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED.

Carried Unanimously

#### **C. Adoption of Minutes**

- C.1** Minutes from the Advisory Committee on Accessibility Meeting held July 20, 2018

Moved by Mr. Gobbi, seconded by Mr. Bunce, that the Advisory Committee on Accessibility minutes from the meeting held July 20, 2018 BE ADOPTED.

Carried Unanimously

#### **D. New Business**

- D.1** Downtown Parking and Accessibility, Guest Presenter: Nakisha Bauer-Baumeister

Mr. Deveau introduced Ms. Bauer-Baumeister, a citizen who contacted the City with a concern about accessible parking in the downtown. As a person with reduced mobility, Ms. Bauer-Baumeister expressed concerns regarding the lack of options for all day accessible parking in the downtown. On street parking is limited to three (3) hours, and parking facilities are not sufficiently accessible – both due to lack of appropriate parking and the difficulty for persons with reduced mobility to travel from these facilities to their work place due to inclement weather or chronic pain. Ms. Bauer-Baumeister indicated that after an inquiry with City Staff, it was suggested to use the parking facilities when able, and to contact Bylaw Services on days where this would not be feasible, and an exemption may be granted. Ms. Bauer-Baumeister provided examples of other municipalities that have policies in place to permit holders of SPARC placards to be exempt from parking restrictions, notably Victoria and Kelowna.

Discussion commenced regarding options for addressing the issue. The Committee discussed concerns calling into Bylaw Services to request an exemption for on-street parking has been inconsistent, the increased focus on inclusive hiring will compound the issue in the future and the lack of privacy in requiring individuals to call in and explain their situation to Bylaw Services. Mr. Deveau stated that concerns of maintaining accessible stalls for downtown visitors will need to be considered in any resolution.

Moved by Ms. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Gobbi, that the Advisory Committee on Accessibility create a working group with a focus on developing a recommendation for City Administration regarding accessible parking in the city.

Carried Unanimously

Ms. Palmer will work with Mr. Deveau on this working group.

Ms. Bauer-Baumeister exited the room at 5:40

**D.2 Accessible Transit Advisory Committee (ATAC)**

Mr. Deveau advised that a representation from the Accessible Transit Advisory Committee (ATAC) has requested the appointment of a member from the Advisory Committee on Accessibility to join the ATAC committee. ATAC meets quarterly, with the next meeting scheduled for September 20, 2018.

Discussion commenced and the Committee requested Mr. Deveau inquire further on the business of ATAC and report back to the Committee at the October 10, 2018 meeting.

**D.3 Work Plan – Check In**

Mr. Deveau stepped the committee through work plan items 1A-1G, relating to the committee’s role in providing the City feedback on accessibility barriers and best practices to ensure City services and infrastructure is inclusive and accessible.

Discussion commenced regarding the committee being given the opportunity to review City led projects earlier in their design phase to better provide productive comments. Mr. Deveau and Mr. Sinclair are to examine ways to facilitate this and report back to the committee. Ms. Blewett suggested that a standing agenda item be created to discuss City projects.

**E. Old Business**

**E.1 Civic Facilities and Parks Update**

Mr. Sinclair advised that work is commencing on Nechako Riverside Park with additional accessibility features incorporated into the design; improvements to Duchess Park are now complete, as is the bridge in Cottonwood Island Nature Park.

**F. Informational Items**

Discussion commenced regarding an interest from Committee members to permanent move future meeting times to 5:00 p.m.

**F.1 Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room**

The next regular committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room. All agenda items and supporting materials must be submitted to Ms. Jackson before 12:00 p.m. on Monday, October 1, 2018.

**G. Adjournment**

**THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:40 p.m.**

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**Andrea Palmer, Chair**

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**Tristin Deveau, Planner / Staff Liaison**

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