

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**AAC 2-2023
Tuesday, September 26, 2023
Meeting held by electronic participation**

Committee: Councillor Bateman (Committee Chair), M. Abdelmaksoud, A. Coates, L. Hay (Committee Vice-Chair), A. Hernandez, V. Leitch, R. Walker, D. Whipple

Other Councillors: Craitor

Absent/Regrets: Bradley (Regional Chair), S. Howe, N. Qureshi

Staff: T. Dumas, Accessibility Advisor, L. Gallant, Poverty Reduction Strategy Advisor, K. Lotimer, Legislative Coordinator, N. Oakes, Executive Assistant, Commissioner, Growth Strategy and Economic Development

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Bateman, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

3. PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Niagara Poverty Reduction Strategy

Lisa Gallant, Poverty Reduction Strategy Advisor, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities, provided information respecting Niagara Poverty Reduction Strategy. Topics of the presentation included:

- Community Conversations
- Preliminary Goal
- 40 Draft Recommendations
- Next Steps

3.2 Accessibility Advisory Committee Role and Regional Services

Tammy Dumas, Accessibility Advisor, provided information respecting Accessibility Advisory Committee Role and Regional Services. Topics of the presentation included:

- Committee Scope
- Committee Responsibilities
- Niagara Region Services
- Current Accessibility Initiatives
- Niagara Region Partner Organizations

4. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

5. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

5.1 AAC-C 2-2023

Accessibility Advisory Committee Draft Terms of Reference

Moved by R. Walker

Seconded by D. Whipple

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee **RECOMMENDS** to the Planning and Economic Development Committee:

That Report AAC-C 2-2023, dated September 26, 2023, respecting the Draft Terms of Reference for the Accessibility Advisory Committee, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the Accessibility Advisory Committee Draft Terms of Reference attached as Appendix 1 to Report AAC-C 2-2023, **BE APPROVED**.

Carried

5.2 AAC-C 3-2023

Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Dates - 2023

Moved by V. Leitch

Seconded by R. Walker

That Correspondence Item AAC-C 3-2023, dated September 26, 2023, respecting 2023 Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Dates, **BE RECEIVED**; and

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee meetings **BE HELD** on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. on the following dates in 2023:

October 31, and November 28, 2023.

Carried

6. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6.1 AAC 1-2023

Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - August 15, 2023

Moved by R. Walker

Seconded by V. Leitch

That Minutes AAC 1-2023, being the minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting held on Tuesday, August 15, 2023, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Disability Permit Parking

Angela Coates, Committee Member, enquired about whether Niagara Region could remove parking restrictions to permit parking anywhere (with the exception of emergency vehicle parking spots) for any length of time without penalty for individuals with accessible parking permits, similar to the cities of Toronto and Hamilton. Tammy Dumas, Accessibility Advisor, stated that parking enforcement is the responsibility of the local area municipalities and that she would reach out to the local municipal Accessibility Advisory Committees to advise them that this matter was raised at the Region's AAC meeting.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 31, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:14 p.m.

Councillor Bateman
Committee Chair

Kelly Lotimer
Legislative Coordinator

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk