

City of Edmonton
Accessibility Advisory Committee
(AAC) Meeting Minutes
June 8th, 2015

City Hall, Heritage Room

4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Present: J. Davies-Davis D. Gajadhar E. Jackson
A. Jaffer E. Lavallee A. LeMaistre
R. Marshall M. Miller L. Taylor
V. Van Q. Wade Z. Weeks

Regrets: S. Simon S. Thompson

Presenters: N. Spencer-Cavaliere

Staff: H. Crowe C. Lamoureux L. Tanzi

Notes	Action
1. Call to order At 4:40 pm	
2. Approval of agenda Agenda of June 8th, 2015 approved Moved by L. Taylor ; Seconded by D. Gajadhar	Carried
3. Approval of Minutes Minutes of May 11th, 2015 Moved by M. Miller ; Seconded by D. Gajadhar	Carried
4. Sub-Committee Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Continue to complete the work on the three to five year work plan. ii. Policy group is currently reviewing guidelines on the following: finalized the policy review process, event attendance by AAC members, public attendance at AAC meetings, and social media. iii. H. Crowe, A. LeMaistre and C. Lamoureux are reviewing the committee policies and AAC mandate within the orientation binder. 2) Community Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Continue to complete the work on the three to five year work plan. 	

- ii. Continue to draft social media guidelines.
- iii. Soft launch occurred for the new AAC name and logo at the Mayor's Awards on May 20th, 2015. Q. Wade was able to take pictures of the High level bridge lit up in AAC logo colors.

5. Disability Language Presentation

- 1) First person language
 - i. Many people with disabilities are subjected to devaluation, prejudice, marginalization due to the language others use to describe a person with a disability.
 - ii. Person first language acknowledges the person is first and the disability is second. For example: Person with a disability or a person with Multiple Sclerosis.
 - iii. Used commonly all over the world.
 - iv. Rights based language.
 - v. Politically correct.
 - vi. However, some people do not self-identify this way and choose to not use the person first language (i.e. Deaf community). It can also be quite wordy in documentation such as grant applications.
- 2) Social model of disability
 - i. The social model of disability identifies systemic barriers, negative attitudes and exclusion from society (purposely or inadvertently) where society is the main contributing factor in disabling people (such as the elevator buttons are too high to reach, therefore I cannot go in the elevator).
- 3) New trends in language
 - i. Some groups are taking the language people identify (such as crippled), and use it in a different way (to reclaim the word). I.e. CRIPSIE (a dance group for people with a variety of disabilities).
- 4) Suggestions
 - i. Listen to the language the person uses to determine what they find appropriate (what is their story and find the individual person).
 - ii. Recognize the shifting nature of the word disability.
 - iii. Recognize when impairment and disability are relevant.
 - iv. Always be respectful to the person, and ask if you have questions.
 - v. People who experience disabilities or person with an impairment.

6. Presentation by M. Miller

- 1) Presentation on Board Leadership Conference
 - i. M. Miller shared learnings from the Board Leadership Conference.
 - ii. See attached documents.

7. Administration/Executive Update

<p>2) Blatchford memo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The AAC has sent a letter to City Council advising them on visitable housing for the Blatchford project. A visitable house is defined as: 1. No step entrance (at the front, back, or side of the house) 2. Wider doorways and hallways on the main floor with a path of accessible travel to the washroom 3. Wheelchair accessible bathroom. ii. The Visitability Task Force put together a letter that was sent to disability organizations to request support on visitable housing. iii. H. Crowe and S. Thompson met with C. Fitch to discuss the Blatchford project. iv. Visitability Task Force will host a Dinner Dialogue with key members from Council (Councillor Esslinger, Councillor Walters and Council Knack who will champion the Visitable task force) and key members from City of Edmonton Administration. 	
<p>9. New Business</p> <p>1) Review of Committee communication tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Administration put together pros and cons of different communication tools the AAC can use for communication. ii. Discussion occurred. iii. Please see attached document. iv. Administration will send a sample google drive link to test google docs. <p>2) Policy Review process approval</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Request to approve draft Policy review process guideline for approval. <p>Motion: To adopt and use the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) Policy Review Process Guidelines.</p> <p>Moved by: Q. Wade ; Seconded by M. Miller</p> <p>10. Next Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting will be held on July 13th, 2015 beginning at 4:30 p.m. in the Heritage Room, City Hall.</p>	<p>AAC members to review attached document on the different communication tools. AAC members to come prepared for the July meeting to vote on which communication tool to use.</p> <p>Carried</p>
<p>11. Adjournment</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm</p>	