

Northumberland Accessibility Advisory Committee

Minutes

January 12, 2023

555 Courthouse Road, Cobourg

By Zoom video conference - 10:00am – 11:30am

Members present: Bob Robertson, Hope Bergeron, Karl vom Dorff (Chair), Selena Forsyth, Stephanie Ash, Andrea Nicholson (staff)

Regrets: Christine Bayer, Doug Bates, Jason Ducharme, Christina Gray, Bobby-Jo Preston

Guest: Todd Farrell, Manager of Natural Heritage

The meeting was called to order at 10:05am

1. **Approval of meeting notes from November 10, 2022**

Moved by Selena, seconded by Hope, that the minutes from November 10, 2022 be approved. Carried.

2. **Action items and follow-up from November 10, 2022**

Action 1: Andrea to provide a summary of awareness activities to NAAC members regarding International Day for Persons with Disabilities. Complete.

Action 2: Andrea to send out 2023 NAAC meeting dates/calendar invitations. Complete.

3. **New Business**

i **Expansion of Northumberland County Forest universal trails**

Todd reported that a new 1.1km universal trail with 2 loops is under construction. Todd explained the process of developing the new trail including archeological surveys, archaeological evidence review and consultations with First Nations (Stage1 archeological surveys for the entire woodlot and Stage 2 archeological surveys for the area flagged for the 1.1 km trail). Throughout the course of the project, costs have increased significantly reducing the overall length of the planned trail. Trail construction had to be started right away in late 2022 order to meet funder requirements. The trail will follow the same design as the other universal trails in the County Forest and is expected to be completed in 2023. Signage and trail names will reflect indigenous culture. Groundwork is in place to expand the trail in the future as funding permits.

ii Annual Status Update to Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

Andrea presented a draft report to the Corporate Support Standing Committee that will serve as the Annual Status update to the 2022-2025 Multi-year Accessibility Plan. Committee members provided feedback. Andrea reported that a few more achievements will be added, as additional projects are completed by the Facilities team.

Moved by Selena, seconded by Hope, that the Committee endorse the Annual Status Update Report, with the added achievements and recommend that Council accept and approve the 2022 Accessibility Annual Status Update. Carried.

iii Accessibility Coordinator update

Andrea reported that the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan will be updated to reflect the status of 2022 goals, noting that some goals have been extended into 2023.

Andrea presented a template with 2023 Accessibility goals that will be used to provide quarterly updates to the Committee on the 2023 accessibility goals outlined in the 2022-2025 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan.

iv NAAC Chair for 2-year term (2023-2024)

Bob nominated Karl for Chair, seconded by Hope. Karl accepted the nomination.

Karl requested that due to low attendance at the meeting that other members be contacted with a call for nominations. If there are additional nominations voting will take place at the next meeting.

The Committee discussed membership and low attendance rates of some members.

Action 1: Andrea to review 2022 meeting attendance and report back to Chair for determining next steps for members with low attendance.

Action 2: Andrea to send NAAC members a call for nominations for Chair for the 2023-2024 term.

v May meeting date change

Andrea reported a conflict with the scheduled May 11, 2023 Committee meeting. The Committee agreed to change the meeting date to May 4th, 2023

Action: Andrea will update the meeting calendar request and meeting dates on upcoming Agendas and Minutes.

4. Adjournment

The meeting was terminated at 11:34

Next Meeting: February 9, 2023

Upcoming 2023 regular meetings:

- February 9, 2023
- March 9, 2023
- April 13, 2023
- May 4, 2023* (*new date)
- June 8, 2023
- September 14, 2023
- October 12, 2023
- November 9, 2023

No meetings in July, August or December