



Chatham-Kent Accessibility Advisory Committee

Date and Time:	Tuesday, February 18, 2020 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Location:	Studio One, Cultural Centre
Present:	Rick LaMarsh, Sara Ebare, Ralph Roels, Brett Bartlett, Eileen Travis Hamilton, Jerry Meriano, Brian Bird, Sheila Clements, Bruce Thompson, Ashley Gialelem
Absent:	Kiara McGivern, Mickey Puddicomb, Mike Gerard, Jan Metcalfe
Staff Present:	Annette Bourdeau, Jane McGee, Shelley Charbonneau
Council Rep:	Clare Latimer
Guests:	Carlos Pisquem, Rob Veccia, Zachary Kucera

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

2. Review of Minutes from January 21, 2020

Motion of Approval: Sara

Seconded: Bruce

Carried.

3. Playground Unit Consultation

The Facility Supervisor, Tilbury/Wheatley district presented the plan for new playground unit at LaMarsh Park in Wheatley and requested feedback.

The replacement unit has accessible and inclusive features. Access to the unit is available via sidewalk.

Engineered wood fibre base will be installed with the unit.

4. Pilot Website for Redesign of C-K Website

IT is working on first phase of web site redesign. Link was sent to AAC to review and is available weekdays between 9-5.

Looking for feedback on the Visit CK site so far. IT would like the web site to be accessible using any device anywhere in the world.

Looking at launching the site in March.

It was noted that someone using a screen reader device to access the site found the font showed well and good contrast in background.

Suggestions from the Committee include:

- Photos should be tagged.
- Icons need to include text.
- Maps link to actual facilities instead of an office location.
- Event links have contacts listed.
- “Read to me” feature should be made available - usually found in browser i.e. Internet Explorer, Google Chrome.
- Include a feature to increase font size – also a browser feature.
- Include a list of local festivals.
- Ease of access for pages i.e. Committees of Council pages.

Will consult again with the next phase of the site upgrade.

5. Library Accessibility Tour

The following items were noted at the Chatham Library:

- Need improvements to access to back door.
- Need more large accessible parking spaces.
- Curb cut-outs are needed. Difficult to see the curbs.
- Washroom needs power door with a manual lock.
- Washroom use on second floor locked after 5 pm for safety reasons.
- Recommend use of cameras to monitor activity.
- Security officer should be available.
- Trained staff.
- Elevator is small and door settings need to be adjusted to allow more time getting on.

6. Award Nominations

The Committee toured the following locations:

Planet Fitness:

- TV’s need to have closed caption turned on.
- Only 2 machines available for someone in a wheelchair.
- Allow caregivers to attend if needed.
- Good open area.

Cascades Casino:

- Not enough space between machines.

Eden Villa:

- Wide hallways and large activity room with wide space.

- All amenities on one floor.
- Staff are trained appropriately.

Motion to present the Business Award to Eden Villa: Bruce
Seconded: Sara
Carried.

Advocate award to be presented to St. Clair College. Ashley will contact them.

Perseverance award to be presented to Rick Frances. Ralph will contact him.

The awards presentation will take place on March 17th @ 1:30 pm. Eden Villa will be contacted to see if they would like to host.

7. Updates, Media and Next Meeting Items

Assistive Hearing Device – Chatham-Kent IT has tried to contact Children’s Treatment Centre regarding the device. Funding is available for the purchase. IT Services will be responsible for reserving the device for meeting use. Will be available for any municipal meeting in the near future.

Facebook – Reminder to review posts on AAC Facebook page.

Transit – Looking for Committee members to do a deputation the night of the Transit report to Council scheduled for June. Members were encouraged to visit carpool.ca for info re: ride share programs.

Meeting adjourned: 2:45 pm

Next Official Meeting Date: **Tuesday, March 17, 2020**
Location: TBD
Time: 1:30 p.m.