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**MINUTES**  
**Accessibility Advisory Committee**  
**May 21, 2026 – 2:30 p.m.**  
Microsoft Teams : [Click here to join the meeting](#)

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**Present:** Ather Shabbar (**AS**), Terry Scott (**TS**), Councillor Bonnie Fokkens (**BF**), Shealah Stratton (**SS**)

**Absent:** Leslie Monger (**LM**)

**Also Present:** Grant Munday – Director of Planning & Development Services (**GM**), Emily Clulow – Permit Application Clerk (**EC**), Frank Pearson (**FP**) Manager of Facilities, Operations and Development, Jeby James – Enable Talent (**JJ**), Jibin George – Enable Talent (**JG**)

**1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 2:33 P.M.**

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Approval of May 21, 2026, meeting agenda

Mover: **BF** Second: **SS**

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**Conflict of Interest** – “Having reviewed the agenda, does any committee member have a need to disclose a direct or indirect pecuniary interest with respect to today’s agenda - **None**”

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

4.1 Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes, dated February 19, 2026  
(for approval)

That the minutes of February 19, 2026, meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee be approved as presented. Mover: **BF** Second: **SS**

BF asked GM to provide an update for 7.2, the AAC recruitment strategy status. GM provided the request to the Communications Dept. Clerk’s Dept advised they will not be advertising for any positions at this time until after the election. BF wanted update for the strategy that would be for next term. GM’s understanding is that the strategy will be used, but it won’t be used until they are recruiting. GM to confirm with the Clerks Dept.

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**AS** – shared Wendy & William Barnes have resigned. AS shared dislike for the recruitment methods provided from Clerks, AS is looking for a targeted outreach recruitment strategy, which was drafted.

## **5. COMMENTS FROM CHAIR**

**None**

## **6. Enabled Canada – Amandipp Singh, founder of Enabled Talent.**

**JJ** provided a presentation on Enable Canada Foundation, and it was received by the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

AS reminded the committee that they are looking for the committee's endorsement.

TS asked about a website, historical feedback from other cities? JJ stated they would provide them in an email.

JJ advised the non-profit started 1 year ago. JJ stated they are an accessibility solution company, not a talent matching company.

JJ advised they have two solutions. One is for university and second one is for government solutions. For the government solutions, they have Enable Africa, which is partnered with UNICEF and Ghana. Then in Canada locally, they launched their solutions with the support of city of Sudbury is called Sudburyjobs.ca, where they bring talents, employers, local NGOs, and local educators all under one umbrella.

The committee continued with questions to better understand what they are looking for from the City of Welland and the AAC.

BF to JJ - we asked a lot of questions trying to get down to the meat of really what you're looking at. If you're going to present it to council, if we're going to endorse it, it must be very precise. What we would be asking the city of is to use their resources, both physical and personnel.

The committee provided recommendations for information to include when coming back to the AAC. AS requested, JJ, to create a presentation that can come back to the AAC or council. Invite to attend next meeting was accepted by JJ.

## **7. COMMENTS FROM CITY HALL – GRANT MUNDAY**

### **7.1 Progress MYAP**

GM will share progress of the accessibility plan, a list of what has been completed to date before the next meeting.

### **7.2 Progress Facilities Audit**

FP shared the progress with the facilities AODA audit. GM emailed a copy to the AAC. FP broke down the phasing process. Phase 1 has been completed; list was provided to the AAC. Currently working on Phase 2, that includes several parking items. FP spoke of plans for work being completed in the fall for Phase 2. Phase 3 will include items such as adjusting or reconfiguring service counters at different facilities and adding in-cab annunciators to a number of facility elevators.

FP to share the report that was provided by the Harrington Group and a copy of the phasing matrix.

### **7.3 Budget for Accessibility programs – 2025 and 2026**

GM advised it's more along the lines of facilities capital improvements that FP spoke to.

GM shared updates on complaints that were sent into accessibility. Discussion on screen readers took place. BF advised there used to be 2 accessible parking spaces at the back of City Hall by the library, now reduced to 1. GM will speak with FP and provide an update.

GM stated there is a budget for capital items, does not believe there is another budget currently. BF said there may be costs involved if they adopt our recruitment strategy, that would be in the 2027 budget. GM advised bringing up expense items in the June meeting if needed.

## **8. Business Arising from Previous Meeting**

### **8.1 Site plan Review Standing Committee Status**

AS shared positive feedback on meetings. GM advised updates can be provided to AAC to see how recommendations are being received.

### **8.2 Welland Accessibility Webpage**

AS advised, most was reviewed at last meeting. Accessible parking update is still pending; however, updates are not currently being completed. Committee is looking for a new date of completion as previous target has passed.

## **9. MOTIONS OTHER BUSINESS**

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**AAC Priorities to end of term.**

AS – review in the new term.

**10.ROUNDTABLE**

AS shared the invitation from the Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility, they are holding a forum for all the AAC across the province. Site plan reviews will also be discussed. Recording has been requested, if available, would encourage anyone that has the availability to attend.

**11.ADJOURNMENT**

That there being no further business, the meeting be adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

*\*\*The minutes are signed by the Chair or Vice-Chair (whoever presided over the meeting) and the Secretary.*