

Date: January, 2010
To: Township of East Ferris Council
From: Minutes of the Municipal Accessibility Plan Committee

Municipal Accessibility Plan 2004

10. MONITORING PROGRESS & ANNUAL ACCESSIBILITY PLANS

This working group will act as both the technical advisor to Council and as a liaison to the special needs community. They will meet annually to review the accessibility plan as well as monitor project status to ensure that the goals and objectives of this plan and of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 are being accomplished.

The Municipal Accessibility Committee met on January 26, 2010 at the Corbeil Park Hall to discuss accessibility matters. The committee is comprised of these members;

Robert Point- Co- Chair, Rick Champagne- Co-Chair, Paul Gervais- Secretary and Angela Hurrell- Member. Mr. Champagne was absent from the meeting.

1. Meeting called to order at 13:55
2. **Minutes of April 20, 2009.**
Minutes of the previous meeting were approved by the committee.
3. **Old Business**
 - (a) *Standards for Customer Service*
Paul Gervais had advised the Committee that the required training for the staff and volunteers of the Township was progressing well. Approximately 42 people had taken part in the training and there were approximately 17 people left to train.
 - (b) *Update: What's been accomplished in 2009*
Paul Gervais advised the committee that the Senior's Villas were completed and there are a few units still vacant.
The handicapped parking at the Corbeil Park Hall has been finalized and posted after some compromises.
 - (c) *Grant application*
Paul Gervais advised the committee that the application for a *Small Projects Enabling Accessibility Grant* had been turned down.
 - (d) *Arena renovations update*
Paul Gervais advised the committee that the Arena renovations project has gone to tender. The final drawings were reviewed. Unfortunately, the accessible ramp to the Curling Club lounge was omitted to reduce costs. However, it is expected that the ramp will be built in the future. The washrooms in the Upper Floor hall will be renovated extensively. There is a "Special Washroom" on the Main Floor in the lobby. Angela Hurrell asked if the renovated washrooms at the Upper Floor hall will be accessible since they are not now even though they are designated as barrier-free. Paul Gervais will review the drawings and specifications and advise.

(e) *Transportation*

Rick Champagne was expected to advise the committee about available transportation for people with disabilities in the township. This is still a concern for the Committee and remains an identified barrier in the Recommended Actions.

(f) *Outdoor Washrooms*

Angela Hurrell asked if a temporary ramp could be installed at the outdoor washroom adjacent to the Corbeil playground. The committee thought that a permanent ramp would make sense but only if the washroom was accessible. Paul Gervais will inspect the washroom and advise the committee.

4. Municipal Accessibility Plan 2004, sec. 8

Barrier & Type	Strategy for removal/prevention	Timeline Short 0 - 1 yr. Med. 1 - 3 yrs. Long 3 - 5 yrs.
Shortage of senior's housing in the municipality – Policy / Practice	Complete a housing review to determine need and investigate funding opportunities available for the provision of senior's housing.	Completed
Lack of awareness of groups and agencies providing services for seniors and disabled persons - Communication	Prepare a list of agencies, contacts and services they provide for our residents and include this information on the municipal web site.	Medium term (On going)
Lack of disabled parking for municipal facilities - Mobility	Provide a parking by-law designating sufficient parking spaces for all municipal facilities and provide for enforcement to ensure compliance.	Short term (On going)
Improper doors & no barrier free washrooms at the East Ferris Community Centre - Mobility, Facility/Design	Install automatic doors and make washrooms accessible for persons with disabilities.	Long term (On going)
Inadequate doors & no barrier free washrooms at the Public Works Garage - Mobility, Facility/Design	Make one washroom accessible for persons with disabilities and gender free and ensure one access to building is made accessible for wheelchair access.	Long term (On going)
Lack of proper signage for all municipal buildings - Communications	Investigate the use of international signage system for all municipal facilities.	Short term (On going)
Lack of proper access and washroom facilities at public parks and beaches - Facility/Design	Make all municipal parks and beaches accessible for persons with disabilities.	Long term (on going)
Parking at Corbeil Park Hall adjacent to the Main entrance creates a hazard for everyone and vehicles are blocked in.	Install signage to make the area adjacent to the main entrance a Loading Zone (only), and create barrier free parking spaces at the guard rail closest to the building.	Completed
It is difficult for some residents to hear at meetings conducted in the	Install a Public Address (P.A.) system when renovating of constructing new Council	Medium

Corbeil Park Hall.	Chambers.	
Ramps at local businesses become difficult or impossible to use.	Encourage local businesses to maintain access/ramps and approaches in good order.	Long
Local business should be made aware of forthcoming legislation.	Make local businesses aware of forthcoming legislation regarding accessibility.	Long
Washrooms at Government Dock Beach are difficult to use.	Make washroom accessible.	Medium
Washrooms at Arena are difficult to use.	Make washrooms accessible.	Short

Angela Hurrell will put together a pamphlet to provide to local businesses about Accessibility issues and Paul Gervais will produce a cover letter for the pamphlet. When these are completed, the committee will meet again to approve the pamphlet prior to providing them to local businesses.

5. New Business

(a) *Accessible Dock (Universal design)*

The committee discussed the desire to create a dock on Lake Nosbonsing that would be “Universal Design” so that it was accessible to people with disabilities. The committee thought that a “Universal Design” dock should be built near the beach at the Government dock on Big Moose Road. This way, the existing dock and boat launch could be left as they are. The “Universal Design” dock must be solid so that it doesn’t move with the water and wide/long enough to provide room for a wheelchair to turn around. Bob Point will discuss this with Council.

(b) *Other Items*

A trash can at the Government Dock on Big Moose Road is placed in front the sign indicating the handicapped parking space. Paul Gervais will advise the Parks and Recreation Department to relocate the trash can.

6. Recommendations to Council

(a) Transportation for people with disabilities is still a important concern of the committee.

(b) The committee would like Council to consider a new “Universal Design” dock on the west side of the beach at the Government Dock on Big Moose Road.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.