

**Accessibility Committee Meeting
April 16, 2021
Town Council Chambers**

Present

Mayor L. Boucher
Councillor D. MacInnis
G. Kell
G. Mattie
A. Dunphy, EDPC

Absent with Regret

Councillor M. Farrell

S. Scannell, Community Development
D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk
Juniper Littlefield
Megan Lloyd

Call to Order

Chair, Councillor d. MacInnis called the meeting to order at 12:27 PM and roundtable introductions took place.

The Chair noted that following a summary of where things are the Committee members would do a walk-about of the downtown.

J. Littlefield noted that the draft document includes comments from a number of key stakeholders and that the document has now been amended somewhat.

An overview of the document was presented by J. Littlefield and she noted this document is not meant for the public, but rather, to be used by the Committee as a basis for moving forward.

She noted the document includes five (5) objectives for engagement activities. A brief review including messaging (including target audiences) was presented. It was noted that the first round of engagement has already been done. A review of potential stakeholders/informants has been updated.

It was noted that once the draft has been completed it will go back out to the public.

The Committee was encouraged to send any comments to S. Scannell to be forwarded on to the Consultant. It is expected the document will be wrapped up in the next week or so.

J. Littlefield called for comments on the document from the Committee.

It was noted that there a list of stakeholders has been developed and requested additional contact information or stakeholders be identified. Details can be forwarded to J. Littlefield.

In response to a query it was noted an open house would likely be held this summer.

S. Scannell noted that as part of budget discussions a number of items have been identified as 'low hanging fruit' that may be able to be undertaken sooner than later. S. Scannell noted that some items, such as snowbank clearing have been unofficially undertaken.

J. Littlefield noted they would focus on the 'built environment' during the walk-about along Main Street. Brief discussion took place.

M. Lloyd noted her focus today had been to carry out the accessibility audit. Brief discussion took place on concerns identified related to the Antigonish Mall. It was noted the Consultants would also take a brief view of the hospital, and St. FX. It was noted that James Street should also be looked at.

J. Littlefield noted that some places, such as the Mall and Hospital are out of the Towns' jurisdiction. She further noted that they would be taking notes identifying some objectives and/or comments.

M. Lloyd noted that the built environment can also be of assistance to those with vision loss, etc., and provided comment. She noted that there are a number of small changes that can be implemented in conjunction with ongoing maintenance and are things that could benefit everyone in general.

At 12:57 PM the meeting adjourned and the Committee left to do their walk-about.