



**ACCESS ABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
(AAAC)**

**Thursday, April 12, 2018, at 3:00 p.m.  
Inn at the Quay, Hyack North Meeting Room  
900 Quayside Drive, New Westminster  
MINUTES**

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:**

- Councillor Patrick Johnstone - Chair
- Paul Haskell - Community Member
- Karla Olson - Community Member
- Tanis Juriga - Community Member
- Julia Schoennagel - Community Member
- Asifa Lalji - Community Member
- Colleen Vogler - Community Member
- Harvey Wolfson - Community Member

**REGRETS:**

- Anne Bélanger - Community Member
- Chris Nicholson - SD40 Representative

**STAFF:**

- Lisa Leblanc - Manager, Transportation, ENG Services
- Carilyn Cook (Left at 4:20 pm) - Committee Secretary, ENG Services
- Steve Kellock - Senior Manager  
Recreation Services & Facilities  
ENG Services

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm.

**1.0 ADDITIONS TO AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**1.1 Additions to and adoption of the Agenda of April 12, 2018**

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Agenda of the Access Ability Advisory Committee meeting held on February 8, 2018 be received and adopted with the addition of Item 5.4 – Third Avenue and Eighth Street Crossing & Bus Shelter Update and Item 5.5 Downtown Transportation Plan, from Karla Olson, Committee member.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

## **2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

### **2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of February 8, 2018**

#### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Minutes of the Access Ability Advisory Committee held on October 12, 2017, be received and adopted with the following amendments:*

- 1. Item 5.4 – A member requested the inclusion of percentages regarding slope grade/wheelchair access with respect to Q to Q Pilot Ferry (Staff advised that all the information would also be publically available in the upcoming report to Council); and,*
- 2. Item 5.4 – First paragraph should be amended to read, ‘Stan will share with us his personal experience as someone who relies on a wheelchair to get around, as well as provide his professional advice on the pilot ferry service...’*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

## **3.0 PRESENTATIONS**

### **3.1 New Aquatic and Community Centre Project – Steve Kellock**

Steve Kellock, Senior Manager, Recreation Services & Facilities, commenced with his presentation stating that, with respect to the new aquatic and community centre, staff are currently in the process of conducting a feasibility study to determine what the facility will hold. He advised that the two new facilities together would be 70,000 square feet on two levels, and that a replacement facility is more cost effective than an upgrade of the current facility considering that pool facilities generally have a 50 year life span. Input received from the Committee will be used to inform a report that will be going to Council in June.

In response to questions from the Committee, Steve provided the following information:

- At this site, at-grade parking would be less expensive than building a below or above ground structure. The inherent assumption is that the recycling depot would be relocated; however, that is a discussion that

would involve public engagement. At-grade parking would also mean that the underutilized gravel field would come off this site and be replaced with an artificial turf field, likely beside another artificial turf field, to facilitate the hosting of tournaments and improve experiences for the sporting community. New Westminster Secondary would most likely be the location identified for another turf field;

- Environmental design and permeability is being taken into consideration with the site;
- Both ramps and lifts are being considered for the main tank;
- Everything will be built to current and best practices for accessibility; however, the goal is to exceed those;
- Universal change rooms will be our primary focus – best practice right now in aquatic design is that the universal change room is the largest space with smaller gender specific changes rooms. The universal change room is the primary space that people move through for a number of reasons including that it can best meet everyone’s needs – opposite sex parents can be in the change room with their children, it accommodates new legislation around gender and, from an accessibility point of view, the universal change room will have larger stalls to accommodate private accessible changing experiences, both dry and wet (with or without a shower);
- While some facilities are creating LGBT swims to accommodate those who may be self-conscious of scars, etc., this facility will not be large enough to offer that;
- With respect to bells being installed in order for people to call for assistance, staff advised implementation would depend on who would be answering the request for assistance and what kind of training would be required of them. Staff will investigate which kind of alert system could be included in the design. It was noted that currently it is not appropriate for staff to assist people with changing, etc., as staff are not trained in transporting people. The equipment is provided; however, patrons must have their own assistants;
- Staff will advise at a future meeting whether or not the project includes a provision to receive legal advice in order to avoid future human rights complaints;
- Pool deck design, including slings, parking for wheelchairs, changing room benches (height, etc.), will be addressed at a later date;
- Sinks, etc., that facilitate the use of colostomy bags will not be recommended as we would need to ensure that the space is properly sanitized;
- The project architects will consider visuals for those with sight issues;
- Staff stated that the Grandview Height Aquatics Centre in South Surrey is a great example of accessible design;
- Noise levels will be considered and addressed in the new facility;

- It was noted that a full transportation study in and around the site, including the nearby road networks, will be conducted;
- The eight multi-purpose rooms will be of different sizes but will most likely not include expandable dividers between them as they do not hold up well against high activities such as balls being thrown at or hitting against them. Members were informed that there are pricing accommodations for non-profit organizations who wish to rent a multi-purpose room and that charges for rooms will be in line with room size; and,
- The on-site cafeteria space will be City run or contracted to an outside provider.

Members provided the following additional suggestions/comments:

- A member advised that while new facilities in the City meet the universal design standards, some things are just not practical for the end user;
- With respect to access to the second floor, members suggested a different slope as opposed to an elevator or, possibly, a large ramp between the two levels that would allow patrons to either go upstairs or outside such as what they have in Gatineau;
- A member urged staff to consider the emergency exit aspect of the facility so that those with accessibility challenges feel like they are prioritized;
- Although there will be room for patrons to wait inside the centre for taxis, etc., members suggested that an outside covered waiting area also be considered; and,
- A member suggested that the City consider having the facility or parts of the facility open 24 hours per day to accommodate shift workers.

In closing, Steve reminded everyone that design details will be revisited at a future meeting, and also requested that if anyone sees something at a new facility that they would like to see at the New Westminster facility, to email him. Next steps include the feasibility report going to Council, community and stakeholder engagement, detailed design and, finally, construction.

With respect to the draft Social Sustainability Objectives, the following discussion ensued:

- A member suggested that the third sentence read, ‘...required of a culturally inclusive *and accessible* space...’;
- Councillor Johnstone advised that this statement is going to be used in procuring the services of the designer and architect – essentially these are the instructions we are giving them;

- Staff clarified that the sustainability and environmental piece is a separate aspect and that those targets are currently being developed;
- Staff noted that use of the word “race” was used based on feedback from the City’s Multiculturalism Advisory Committee;
- Staff advised that the City’s First Nations community will be engaged in naming the facility;
- A member suggested that the first sentence read, ‘...designed to be inclusive *and accessible*...’;
- A member felt that use of the word ‘perceptual’ was not inclusive enough, while another member felt that it was and suggested using ‘*perceptual or perceived challenges*’; and,
- A member suggested that the second to last line read, ‘The facility should be designed to accommodate those of different abilities’, while another member suggested, ‘...to be used by those of different abilities.’

In conclusion, Steve asked members how we could ensure that staff is reaching those with different and diverse needs and who may not be able to get to the open houses; a member suggested going to where they are such as different societies and groups, etc. Members were asked to let Steve know if there were any other groups that they felt should be contacted for input on this project.

### **3.2 Quayside Tour of Q to Q Pilot Ferry Service Site – Committee**

Commencement of the tour took place at 4:20 pm upon adjournment of the regular meeting (after Item 4.2 – Mews Parking Possible Sub Committee Meeting).

## **4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **4.1 Mews Parking Possible Sub Committee Meeting**

Lisa Leblanc, Transportation Manager, suggested that, since the issue of parking has come up multiple times, this issue may be better addressed at a sub committee meeting. A poll will be sent out to members to determine which date and time would work best for the majority who are interested in attending a sub committee meeting to discuss this topic.

At this time, Lisa also advised the group of another upcoming sub committee meeting that would be held in order for staff to receive feedback on the new park being developed at the Chinese Benevolent Association site located at 824 Agnes Street. It was noted that feedback from the Committee is required by the end of April.

At this time, the regular meeting was adjourned and the Quayside tour of the Q to Q Pilot Ferry Service site commenced.

## **5.0 NEW BUSINESS**

### **5.1 Commercial Vehicle Amendment Bylaw (Accessible Taxis) – Lisa Leblanc**

To be addressed at the next meeting.

### **5.2 Third Avenue and Eighth Street Crossing & Bus Shelter Update – Karla Olson**

This item was discussed after the tour of the dock. Staff advised that Pattison Outdoor Advertising has been asked to put a shelter in at both the northbound and southbound bus stops at this location. Also, staff advised that improvements to the north leg crossing of Eighth Street at Third Avenue are being considered by staff, for inclusion in the 2019 Pedestrian Crossing Improvement Program.

### **5.3 Downtown Transportation Plan – Karla Olson**

Staff advised that technical review and planning are continuing for the Downtown Transportation Plan and that further public engagement is anticipated later this spring.

## **6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION**

**No items.**

## **7.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

**No items.**

## **8.0 NEXT MEETING DATE**

**Thursday, June 14, 2018  
Thursday, September 6, 2018  
Thursday, December 6, 2018**

**ON MOTION**, the meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm.

Certified correct,

Original signed

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**PATRICK JOHNSTONE**  
**CHAIR**

Original signed

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**CARILYN COOK**  
**COMMITTEE SECRETARY**