



Brock Accessibility Advisory Committee

Date: Tuesday, November 17, 2020

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Electronic Meeting

Minutes

Present: Jolene Munro, Donna Schirle, Jodi Foreman, Councillor Lynn Campbell, Tony Laundrie

Absent: Karen Hakonson

Staff Present: Lesley Donnelly, Clerk's Assistant (recording the minutes)

1. Call to Order

Chair Munro called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by Donna Schirle that the minutes of the September 22, 2020 meeting be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Hearing of Deputations

None

4. General Items

The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) advised that agenda item nos. 4(1), 4(2), 4(3), 4(4), 4(5), and 4(6) were brought forward from the March 2020 agenda for further discussion as a result of the March 2020 meeting being cancelled due to the pandemic.

1) Community Accessibility Event

The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) recommended that B.A.A.C. members consider doing a Community Accessibility Event virtually in early 2021 and encouraged members to think of a topic for the event.

Chair Munro inquired as to whether the public would be willing to participate electronically. The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) advised that the public has become very adept at attending meetings and

events electronically. The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) recommended that advertising occur well in advance of the event to gauge community interest.

2) 2020 Budget Recommendations

The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) advised B.A.A.C. members that the recommendations put forward by B.A.A.C. have been referred to the 2021 budget discussions. The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) further advised that budget discussions would occur prior to the end of 2020.

3) 2020 BAAC Workplan Recap

The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) noted that the majority of the Workplan was not executed as a result of the pandemic. The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) advised that the display board still needs to be updated however advised that this task should wait until 2021 as the Township anticipates that many events will be cancelled due to the pandemic. B.A.A.C. members agreed with the recommendation.

The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) recommended that the annual presentation to Committee of the Whole be cancelled noting that the majority of the Workplan was not executed due to the pandemic. Chair Munro agreed with the recommendation.

4) Bench outside of Foodland

The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) advised that she spoke with the Director of Public Works with respect to placing a bench outside Foodland. The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) advised that the Director of Public Works suggested that B.A.A.C. reach out to Foodland to see if they are interested in having a bench placed outside Foodland. The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) noted that Foodland could be opposed to the idea as it could cause loitering in the area. The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) further advised that if Foodland is agreeable to a bench then B.A.A.C. would need to decide if they want a celebration bench or a regular bench.

Ms. Schirle inquired as to the difference between the two types of benches. Councillor Campbell sought clarification that the celebration bench was one in the same as the Celebration Bench Program that commemorates someone or something to which the Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) advised they were one in the same.

Chair Munro asked B.A.A.C. members if anyone had an existing relationship with the owners at Foodland and would be willing to make the inquiry regarding the bench. Ms. Schirle offered to reach out to Michelle at Foodland to see if they were interested in a bench.

Chair Munro noted that the bench likely wouldn't be installed until next Spring.

Ms. Schirle wondered if the name plate for the accessibility award could be affixed to the bench if no one submitted an application for the Celebration Bench Program. The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) advised that she would check with staff to see if this would be permitted.

Ms. Foreman wondered if placing the plaque on the bench would set a precedent for future accessibility award winners – would future award winners expect a bench as well? Councillor Campbell agreed that past award recipients did not receive a bench.

Chair Munro suggested that B.A.A.C. first check to see if Foodland is interested in a bench prior to exploring the type of bench and whether the plaque could be placed on the bench. Mr. Laundrie agreed with Chair Munro.

5) Draft Traffic Control Parking By-law

The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) reminded B.A.A.C. that they requested information with respect to the number of accessible parking spaces required per the Township Zoning By-law. Councillor Campbell asked if the Township exceeds the minimum to which the Clerk's Assistant advised she could follow up with staff to see how many accessible parking spaces are in the Township. Mr. Laundrie noted three in Sunderland and stated that overall there is more parking available. Councillor Campbell noted that Cannington seems to have quite a few accessible spots and asked Ms. Foreman to provide insight into the number of accessible spots in Beaverton since she is a resident. Ms. Foreman advised that there are only 2 spots on the main street.

Chair Munro wondered if accessible parking spots should be added to the 2021 Workplan and polled B.A.A.C. members to see if they wanted to look into this matter further. Councillor Campbell noted that some stores do not want an accessible spot in front of their store. The consensus was that there are ample accessible parking spaces within the Township.

The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) informed B.A.A.C. members that the Traffic Control Parking By-law is on hold due to the pandemic.

6) Sidewalk Master Plan

The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) advised that the Director of Public Works will attend the January or March 2021 meeting to provide an update on the Sidewalk Master Plan.

7) 2020 Township of Brock Accessibility Award

The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) advised that Council passed a resolution in support of B.A.A.C.'s recommendation to nominate Foodland, Cannington for the 2020 Township of Brock Accessibility Award. The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) noted that staff reached out to Foodland to see if they would be interested in either a virtual presentation or a socially distanced presentation. Due to the pandemic, Foodland advised that they would prefer not to have a presentation. The Clerk's Assistant further noted that Foodland is thankful to be the recipient of the award.

8) 2020 Durham Region Accessibility Award

The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) advised that Council passed a resolution in support of B.A.A.C.'s recommendation to nominate Fisher's Independent Grocer in Beaverton for the 2020 Durham Region Accessibility Award. The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) advised that Durham Region was entertaining a virtual presentation and noted that she would pass along any information regarding same.

5. Other Items & Inquiries

1) New Business – 2021 Draft BAAC Meeting Schedule

Chair Munro noted that the draft 2021 meeting schedule indicates that the meetings are to occur at the Township Office. Chair Munro advised that meetings might not occur at the Township Office in 2021 due to the pandemic. The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) advised that she would amend the schedule so that it reads as follows:

“Meetings will occur either in the Basement Committee Room of the Municipal Administration Building or Electronically.”

Councillor Campbell expressed her desire to continue with electronic meetings. Chair Munro and Ms. Schirle are also in favour of continuing with electronic meetings.

Moved by Councillor Campbell that the 2021 Draft BAAC Meeting Schedule be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

2) New Business – 2021 Draft BAAC Meeting Workplan

Chair Munro asked B.A.A.C. members if they would like to go through the Workplan line by line or if they would prefer to send changes through to herself of the Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly).

Councillor Campbell advised that the Workplan is reflective of B.A.A.C.'s future goals but that the Workplan might need to be refined in the future due to the pandemic.

Ms. Schirle noted that the display board can't be updated, and that there aren't any events to display it at as a result of the pandemic.

Chair Munro advised that we need to come up with a different Community Accessibility Event (virtual). Councillor Campbell suggested that the event be reflective of “accessibility during the pandemic”. Chair Munro requested that ideas for the Community Accessibility Event be brought forward at the meeting in January 2021.

Mr. Laundrie noted that the Workplan should be amended with respect to the location of the Committee of the Whole presentation advising that the location should include “electronically” (in addition to at the “Municipal Administration Building”).

Councillor Campbell inquired as to whether we could keep the B.A.A.C. meetings electronic even after the pandemic. BAAC members were all in favour of having the meetings electronically. The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) advised that she will inquire and report back to Committee.

Councillor Campbell questioned if Ms. Hakonson was still a member of the Committee as she has missed the last two meetings. The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) will reach out to Ms. Hakonson to confirm if she still wishes to serve on the Committee.

3) Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) advised that the current Chair and Vice-Chair were appointed at the February 2019 B.A.A.C. meeting. The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) further advised that Committee should consider nominations for the second term.

Ms. Schirle advised that she nominates Jolene Munro as Chair.

Mr. Laundrie sought confirmation that Ms. Munro is currently the Chair and that Ms. Schirle is the Vice-Chair to which Ms. Schirle advised that was correct.

The Clerk's Assistant (Ms. Donnelly) advised that B.A.A.C. should consider nominations and bring them to the January 2021 meeting.

4) Next Meeting Date – January 19, 2021

Round Table

Chair Munro opened the floor for round table discussions.

Councillor Campbell wished everyone a Merry Christmas under the current pandemic circumstances. B.A.A.C. members exchanged Christmas pleasantries.

Mr. Laundrie stated that the pandemic has allowed him to find more ways to stay in touch with people and that he has learned a lot.

6. Adjournment

Moved by Donna Schirle to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED