



**MINUTES OF THE
ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting held on Wednesday
September 13, 2023 VIA ZOOM.

Members Present: Councillor M. Albano, Chair, Councillor D. Keene, J. Bray, J. Pearce, W. Farrow-Reed

Regrets: L.D. McKenzie

Staff Present: R. Brown, Deputy Clerk – Administration, S. Howard, Director of Recreation Services, M. Taylor, Recreation Supervisor – Community Programs

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor M. Albano, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY/CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary or conflict of interest.

3. RECEIPT OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

3.a Minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting held on June 21, 2023.

Recommendation No. HHAAC-2023-0008

THAT the Minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting held on June 21, 2023, be received.

CARRIED

4. SCHEDULED ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

4.a Inclusion Services in Recreation and Parks

S. Howard, Director of Recreation Services and M. Taylor, Recreation Supervisor – Community Programs made a presentation to the committee regarding Recreation and Parks inclusive services.

S. Howard noted that Inclusion and access is highlighted as Goal 2 in the recreation and parks strategic action plan. The Town is working to increase inclusion and access to recreation for populations that face constraints to participation.

By 2025, 20% of residents are projected to have some form of disability and will require modified service delivery models.

The Town has added professional instructors to its roster for summer camps, this was introduced in 2021, this is the 3rd year the Town has hired staff with a higher level of education and significant day to day experience working one on one with children with disabilities.

New this year was an Inclusion Lead. The role provided a higher level of expertise and assisted with the training of summer camp staff and was not assigned to a specific child but rather was available for consultation and assistance to all Inclusion staff by responding to escalating or challenging issues as required.

Recreation and Parks has seen steady growth in demand for inclusion spots for camps. The trends of summer camp registration and inclusion support have steadily increased in recent years.

S. Howard noted that there is a need for programming for persons with exceptionalities ages 20 – 35 years, this is the age at which many students graduate and do not have the social outlet that they get when in school. The Friday Night Activity program has been established for this age group with a focus on connecting with others, building relationships, trying new things, and enjoying time together. Each week there will be a different activity scheduled. Participants can enjoy hanging out with others, cooking, playing pool, art nights, life skill building, and making new friends. Town trained staff will facilitate the program.

Criteria for the program, participant has an intellectual/developmental disability, able to toilet independently, able to work with a group ratio of 1 staff to 10 participants. If the participant requires assistance to participate in the program and to interact with friends, please hire a support worker to attend the program. There is no additional charge for support workers.

Recreation and Parks will continue monitoring programming for capacity as the Town continues to explore the gaps in service for our residents with exceptionalities.

Future steps for improving inclusion, include increasing inclusion resources such as having a Full Time Inclusion Coordinator that supports the full continuum of inclusive services across the Recreation and Parks department and continuing to improve the Town's inclusive recreation procedures.

4.b Review of the Town of Halton Hills Draft Multi Year Accessibility Plan (MYAP) 2023-2027

R. Brown reviewed the draft Town of Halton Hills 2023-2027 Multi-year Accessibility Plan with the committee and asked for any comments, concerns, or questions about the plan.

R. Brown responded to questions from the committee. As the committee had no concerns, R. Brown requested that the committee approve the Draft plan for public consultation and upon committee review of any potential changes incorporated from public consultation, request Council approval of the Town of Halton Hills 2023-2027 Multi-year Accessibility Plan.

Recommendation No. HHAAC-2023-0009

THAT the Halton Hills Accessibility Advisory Committee approve the draft Town of Halton Hills 2023-2027 Multi-year Accessibility Plan;

AND FURTHER THAT Halton Hills Accessibility Advisory Committee approve the draft Town of Halton Hills 2023-2027 Multi-year Accessibility Plan being put on the Let's Talk Halton Hills platform for public comment;

AND FURTHER THAT staff circulate the draft Town of Halton Hills 2023-2027 Multi-year Accessibility Plan with any amendments or changes that may be required as a result of public comments to the Committee for final review prior to the plan being put before Council for approval;

AND FURTHER THAT Halton Hills Accessibility Advisory Committee recommend that Council adopt the Town of Halton Hills 2023-2027 Multi-year Accessibility Plan.

CARRIED

5. ITEMS TO BE SCHEDULED FOR NEXT MEETING

Whisper Quiet hand dryers.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.