

City of Edmonton
Accessibility Advisory Committee
(AAC) Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2021
 Google Meet
 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Present: S. Amer K. Boyd C. Brenneis
 J. Caza J. Davies-Davies C. Jones
 S. Klassen C. Knack P. Koon
 T. LaRiviere J. Pisesky P. Reeves
 V. Van

Guest: V. LaHaye

Regrets: C. Bakshi N. Sunderji T. Rice

Staff: H. Craig C. Lamoureux A. Szafranski

Notes	Action
<p>1. Call to order</p> <p>At 4:36 pm</p>	
<p>2. Approval of agenda</p> <p>Agenda of March 8, 2021</p> <p>Moved by J. Davies-Davis</p>	Carried
<p>3. Approval of minutes</p> <p>Minutes of February 8, 2021</p> <p>Moved by J. Caza</p>	Carried
<p>4. City Council update</p> <p>1) Recertification process for DATS riders</p> <p>i. Councillor Andrew Knack has heard feedback from Edmontonians that they think the recertification process for DATS is unnecessary as there have been no changes to their status for DATS ridership.</p> <p>ii. Administration has heard the same feedback on DATS recertification process by individuals who experience disability from birth and whose status will never change.</p> <p>iii. DATS recertifies ridership as they are matching Edmontonians up with the appropriate DATS service (as</p>	<p>Councillor Knack to follow up with the individual on the DATS recertification process and continue to loop in AAC.</p>

some people's needs may change i.e. only require DATS for winter service).

- iv. Could DATS extend the recertification process for those individuals whose service will not likely change?
 - a. Could the responsibility be placed on the individual (rather than DATS) to provide updates?

2) [Izena Ross Podcast series](#)

- i. During this podcast it was identified that there have been thirty one women who have served on City Council.
- ii. The only individual with Disabilities that we are aware of on Edmonton City Council was Percy Wickman.
- iii. Suggestion from Councillor Knack for National Accessibility Awareness Week conversation, that the AAC could look at the history of City Council and see if there were any members with disabilities. There may have been members with undisclosed disabilities, making this tricky to say for sure.
- iv. C. Jones provided feedback that the podcast series was not accessible for Edmontonians who are Hard of Hearing and/or Deaf.

Councillor Knack to follow up with Administration to request live captioning. Suggested that AAC members follow up with 311 to provide requests/feedback.

5. Old Business

1) Awards of Excellence

- i. The ACC used to hold an annual [Mayors Awards](#) event.
- ii. The Mayor's Awards recognizes those who make significant contributions to Edmonton's livability for all, and shines a spotlight on innovations in accessibility.
- iii. The AAC decided to merge with a number of different City of Edmonton events: Youth Awards and Salute to Excellence; into a new event called Awards of Excellence.
- iv. The Awards of Excellence was to be held in 2020, but was postponed due to COVID-19.
- v. Unfortunately, there are no staff available to work on the event. AAC is advised to check in 2022.
- vi. AAC could reuse old social media history and retweet past winners.

Moved this agenda item to Community Engagement for further discussion.

2) Volunteer representative for Taxi meeting/update (Friday, March 12 1:30pm)

- i. Vehicle for Hire, AAC and the Social Identity and Social Inclusion section will be doing an audit of the taxi industry and how they are tracking accessible taxi trips (i.e. how many are being picked up, etc.).
- ii. Vehicle for Hire and AAC would like to build bridges with the taxi industry in order to ensure we can gather the data required.
- iii. The next meeting will be on March 12, 2021 at 1:30 and the Administration is looking for an AAC member to attend in case there are questions on why we would like to gather the data.

AAC members J. Pisesky and P. Kocon will participate at the meeting. C. Lamoureux to send out the Taxi report to read before the meeting.

6. New Business

- 1) National Accessibility Awareness Week
 - i. Administration will be presenting to City Hall Schools during NAAW week on disability and accessibility.
 - ii. City Hall Schools is where elementary schools come to City Hall for a week to tour around and learn more about Government. At the moment, City Hall schools will be going virtual.
 - iii. The request is for a Grade 3 class with maybe a few more classes who would be interested.
 - iv. Administration is looking for a volunteer to help co-present with H. Craig to the Grade 3 class. There may be an honorarium available.
- 2) City of Edmonton Elections (October)
 - i. Administration has asked M. Chow (Director of Social Identity and Social Inclusion) to email the Director of Elections and Census on how Committees of Council can engage in the upcoming elections.
 - ii. Administration will update AAC members.
- 3) Conferences/Training opportunities
 - i. If AAC members are interested in conferences or training opportunities, email Administration to see if the AAC will help cover expenses.
 - ii. If an AAC member completes training or attends a conference, they will be expected to present to the AAC their learnings.

K. Boyd, S. Klassen and J. Caza are interested in co-presenting with H. Craig for City Hall Schools. If anyone else knows of someone who would be interested, please let the Administration know.

7. Administrative/Executive Update

- 1) Virtual meeting check in

- i. AAC members check in to see how our virtual meetings are going.
 - ii. Feedback:
 - a. Try to keep cameras on for members who like to gauge visual cues. However, there needs to also be flexibility with cameras on/off due to personal or disability related needs.
 - b. Suggestion of a breakout room to encourage a more social environment. Concern on captioning with the breakout room.
 - c. Ensure presenters are prepared prior to the meeting (i.e. taking pausing).
 - d. Round table discussion during the meeting. Concern this could take up a lot of meeting time.
 - e. Use games as an icebreaker.
- 2) Chair nominations update
- i. Reminder that Subcommittee Chair nominations will occur at the next Subcommittee meeting.
 - ii. If anyone is interested, please email the Executive or Administration for more information or to put your name forward.
- 3) Review AAC process
- i. AAC goal is to push committee work down to the Subcommittee level and then the work will flow in and around. The Intake subcommittee will review presentations and determine what needs to be done.
 - ii. Approval of work will be brought back up to the main AAC meeting for a motion.
 - iii. Ensure that AAC members send agenda items to the Chair (not admin).
- 4) Code of Conduct
- i. Since the Administration has moved into the new Section of Social Identity and Social Inclusion, there have been many shared learnings.
 - ii. We are going to continue to utilize our new section for new procedures (i.e. City of Edmonton's Youth Council's Code of Conduct).

8. Other Committee Work

- 1) Policy Review
 - i. First policy meeting of the year.
 - ii. Reviewed the work plan and made decisions on items to work on for the next few months.
 - iii. Research the Storefront improvement grant. Policy Review may explore how to encourage accessibility incentives.
- 2) Community Engagement

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Community Engagement has met twice to ground members in strategy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Who is our target audience? b. What will be the process to engage with the audience? ii. Looking into an environmental scan of AAC’s partners/ stakeholders in the community. What are their current issues? How can we connect and discuss issues? iii. Looking at possible solutions to resource the AAC’s Social media presence. <p>3) Intake</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Administration assigned AAC members into groups. Please let the Administration know if you are unavailable during your assigned group. ii. Please send any ideas on projects or areas of the City we should reach out to. <p>9. AAC Calendar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Upcoming event/tasks to do <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Some members have noticed in their communities that there are vaccine concerns/miscommunications on the rollout. <p>10. Round Table/Social Media</p>	
<p>11. Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 6:07 pm.</p> <p>Next Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting will be held on April 12, 2021.</p>	