

**Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee
Meeting Agenda
Thursday, March 9, 2023
Zoom Meeting**

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Present: Jennifer Korstanje (Grimsby), Dave Antaya (NOTL), Dianne Rintjema (Lincoln), Sue Langdon (West Lincoln), Joey Hewitt (Thorold), Lauren Bubnic (NOTL)

Regrets: Rhys Evans (Pelham)

1. **Call to order.** Donna called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm.
2. **Approval of agenda.** Donna changed the agenda as follows:
 5. Port Colborne Beach Parking Plan
 6. Work Plan
 7. Questions?
 8. Next Meeting
 9. Adjournment
3. **Introductions.** Introductions were made of all members. Introductions will continue in future meetings.
4. Housekeeping items:
 - a. **Terms of Reference**

Donna reviewed the Terms of Reference, specifically, the JAAC is responsible for ensuring compliance with the AODA for the municipalities it represents. We serve the larger public as an educational resource on the AODA but do not ensure compliance within the private sector.
 - b. **AODA Training Module**

Donna thanked everyone for doing the training module and reminded people to complete it if not done so yet.

c. Resource information – Multi-Year Accessibility Plans

Donna asked the group if they had questions or concerns about the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan. There were none at this time. Donna will be happy to address any in the future.

d. Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

As Lincoln and Grimsby have yet to appoint their citizen members, the group opted to defer these appointments until the vacancies are filled.

e. Committee Subcommittees or Committee of the Whole?

Donna asked the group if they wanted her to share all site plans with the entire group or should the group appoint a subcommittee? Although some members expressed their lack of experience in this matter, others felt seeing plans provides an opportunity for learning and education.

So, Donna will continue to share submissions with the entire committee for feedback and comment. Those who feel most comfortable will provide feedback. Members are asked to respond to emails by “responding all” so that feedback is shared with the entire group.

f. Meeting schedule

This meeting date and works best for the group, so the JAAC will meet every second month, on the second Thursday from 6:30-8:00 pm.

g. Additional resource needs?

Donna reminded the group that if they require additional background information to reach out to her and she will assist.

5. Port Colborne Beach Parking Plan

The proposed parking plan for Nickel beach was reviewed. The group indicated they require more detail to comment effectively, specifically, street names for the area and where the accessible washrooms are in relation to Parking lot B. Donna will follow up with staff and request this information. Once received, she will email it to the group for comment.

6. Work Plan – committee and municipal priorities

The following priorities were identified for this term:

- **The Accessibility Award** – Donna will circulate the assessment tool used for the award. Currently, if a business or organization scores 80% or more, they receive the award from the JAAC. The group wishes to continue with this campaign.
- **Chambers of Commerce** – develop relationships with the Chambers in Niagara that are part of our jurisdiction in the hopes of raising awareness of accessibility issues.
- **Changing fonts on street signs in municipalities** – to larger, more accessible font
- **Parking By-law** – ensure the JAAC municipalities have updated their parking by-laws to be in compliance with the AODA's Design of Public Spaces Standard
- **Temporary ramps in Niagara-on-the-Lake** – a campaign to see the use of temporary ramps to increase accessibility within the Town
- **Educational Campaign about Disabilities** – specifically about different types of disability (more than wheelchairs) and the changing nature of disability.

7. Questions?

Lauren asked if the JAAC could meet the Admin Group. Donna will attempt to organize a meeting of the JAAC and the JAAC Admin Group perhaps for our next meeting in May. She will also attempt to have this meeting in person as opposed to using Zoom.

8. Next Meeting – Thursday, May 11, 2023, from 6:30-8:00 pm.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.