

**Minutes of the Fourth (4th) meeting of the  
Hearst Accessibility Committee  
November 23, 2017**

The fourth (4th) meeting of this Committee took place at noon in the Hearst Town Hall conference room, located at 925 Alexandra Street.

In attendance: Anne-Marie Portelance, President, André Rhéaume, Agathe Cheff, Chantal G. Dillon, Aline Morissette, Jean-Paul Grondin and Tammy Coulombe.

**1. Opening**

President opened the meeting at 12:08 pm. She welcomed all Executive members, including Tammy Coulombe as the committee's newest member.

**2. Review of the last Executive Committee meeting minutes (September 22, 2017) and the report of the last public meeting (October 10,2017)**

Anne-Marie Portelance reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting and the report of the last public meeting.

**3. Business arising from previous minutes (September 22, 2017)**

A.M. Portelance announced that a brunch will be organized on Sunday December 10th 2017, at 10:30 am to celebrate the Hearst Accessibility Committee's 10th anniversary. It was then proposed to add more photos of the accessibility assessments to the current PowerPoint presentation, Tammy Coulombe volunteered to do it. The President asked three people to speak at the 10th anniversary; André Rhéaume as the Municipal Councilor, Julie Lanoix as a member of the Executive and Claire Forcier as a volunteers. Anne-Marie Portelance will take care of the logistics surrounding the event. Jean-Paul Grondin and Aline Morissette will bring balloons with the logo's colors. The President reminded members to confirm their presence. She specified that the brunch is "at our expense".

The president did a follow-up regarding the école publique Passeport Jeunesse's project to underline the International day for people with disabilities. Julie Lanoix, Claire Forcier and Anne-Marie Portelance made a presentation to the teaching personnel and to the pupils of the secondary level. The geocaching activity will take place at a later date.

A.M. Portelance informed members that Community counselor Tammy Larouche of Victim Services will be the guest speaker for the April 2018 public meeting. It was suggested that an article be written on the subject in the local newspaper.

#### 4. New Business

- The Committee wishes to congratulate the public works team for the maintenance of sidewalks and accessible parking lots.
- A.M. Portelance shared a diagram explaining the "AMP - Access zone" concept, which means, facilitating the movement from the vehicle to the sidewalk by eliminating the cement border. The president pointed out that the disabled person isn't always the driver, he or she may also be a passenger of the vehicle. Note that ramps are sometimes at the back or on the side of the vehicle. It would therefore be desirable to improve the design of these parking lots, especially near banking institutions. With the committee's permission, the president wishes to propose the concept to the Public Works Group. Tammy Coulombe will follow up.

The Chair noted that the Hearst Public Library doesn't have an accessible parking space. A discussion was then held on the location and needs of current accessible parking.

- Members proposed to evaluate the fire hall in 2018 to complete the evaluation of municipal buildings. Secondly, the committee will begin the review of previous audits.

#### 5. Tip of the month

##### **Personal emergency leave**

Personal emergency leave is job-protected time off work for up to 10 days per calendar year. The first two days of personal emergency leave must be paid. This leave may be taken for personal illness, injury or medical emergency. It can also be taken for the death, illness, injury, or medical emergency of, or urgent matter relating to a family member. This threshold would be eliminated in 2018 with Bill 148.

[https://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/es/pubs/brochures/br\\_leaves.php](https://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/es/pubs/brochures/br_leaves.php)

#### 6. Adjournment

- President adjourned the meeting at 1:18 pm and wishes a happy holiday to all.

The next Executive Committee meeting will take place on Friday, February 23, 2018 at 12:00 pm (noon hour) in the Town Hall conference room. The next public meeting will be held on Friday April 27, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Heritage Sawmill Marketplace.

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**Anne-Marie Portelance, President**