

**Minutes of the First (1<sup>st</sup>) meeting of the  
Hearst Accessibility Committee  
February 8, 2019**

The first (1<sup>st</sup>) 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, Tammy Coulombe, Julie Lanoix, Chantal G. Dillon, Agathe Cheff, Michelle Côté and Claire Forcier

**1. Opening**

The president opened the meeting at 12:12 pm. She welcomed all members including Michelle Côté, Claire Forcier and councilor Joël Lauzon as the committee's newest members (Joël Lauzon couldn't attend this meeting).

**2. Review of the last Executive Committee meeting minutes (November 23, 2018)**

Anne-Marie Portelance reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting.

**3. Business arising from previous minutes (November 23, 2018)**

The president revealed the committee's new brochures and thank you cards. Everyone shared their opinion.

A.-M. Portelance informed members that on December 4, 2018, students from the Clayton Brown Public School presented their project in order to mark the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The activity was a great success. The president thanked the Director Mr. Wayne McKinnon, the teacher Mrs. Heather Fex and all of their students. On December 13, 2018, the Hearst Accessibility Committee awarded them a certificate to recognize their excellent work. A.-M. Portelance thanked Mayor Roger Sigouin and Tammy Coulombe for attending this event. The president also thanked Julie Lanoix, Claire Forcier and Michelle Côté for all their help in meeting with the school.

Tammy Coulombe suggested that special attention be given to the selection of guests for the Committee's public meetings to avoid topics that have already been discussed by other local organizations. The president then suggested cancelling the presentation on foot care and, instead, invite a representative from the Grand-Nord Legal Clinic. All agree.

**4. New Business**

- Committee members decided to cancel announcements of public meetings in the local newspaper to minimize the committee's expenses. Articles in the Le Nord

newspaper and interviews on the community radio will explain in more details the purpose of these meetings.

- The chair consulted with members to choose the next building assessment. It was then agreed to follow-up on the last Bouts de Chou Daycare center's evaluation (dated December 22, 2009).
- A.-M. Portelance announced that following certain steps taken by André Rhéaume, the community bus will now be available on the third Thursday of each month for the Samaritain du Nord Food Bank users (especially for people with reduced mobility).
- The president found that the writing in the new telephone directory to be much too small. The committee will send a letter to *Yellow Pages* to share this remark. A.-M. Portelance read the draft letter and thanked Julie Lanoix for writing it.

## 5. Tip of the month

### **The Jooay App**

Finding opportunities for accessible leisure activities can be very challenging for parents and youth with disabilities. With the Jooay App, it is possible to locate these opportunities based on their location, your accessibility needs, individual ability and preference. In other words, the app allows children with disabilities and their families to locate and take part in community activities. Being able to participate in these inclusive leisure activities is important as it fosters healthy development and can improve the quality of life. Web site : [www.jooay.com](http://www.jooay.com)

## 6. Adjournment

- President adjourned the meeting at 1:44 pm.

The next public meeting will be held on Tuesday April 9, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Heritage Sawmill Marketplace. The next Executive Committee meeting will take place on Friday, June 14, 2019 at 12:00 pm (noon hour) in the Town Hall conference room.

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**Anne-Marie Portelance, President**