

**Minutes of the Third (3rd) meeting of the
Hearst Accessibility Committee
September 2, 2016**

The third (3rd) 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, Marcel Dillon, Julie Lanoix, Agathe Cheff, Jean-Paul Grondin and Aline Morissette.

1. Opening

The President opened the meeting at 12:15 pm. She welcomed all members, including Aline Morissette, as the committee's newest member. Anne-Marie Portelance explained that the Town's Chief Administrative Officer, Yves Morrissette, sent her an email to advise her that he couldn't attend the meeting.

2. Review of the last Executive Committee meeting minutes (June 3, 2016)

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

3. Business arising from previous minutes (June 3, 2016)

President Portelance indicated that two sidewalk audits were performed during the summer, the one on George Street (between 8th and 10th St.) and those on 9th St. She thanked those who participated: Fanny Roy, Claire Forcier, Julie Lanoix, André Rhéaume and Chantal Dillon.

Anne-Marie Portelance distributed the new member's contact list which includes the medias, businesses and organizations. People who prefer to be contacted by email do not appear on this list in order to protect their email addresses.

The President announced that the next public meeting will be held on Tuesday October 25th, 2016 at 7 pm in the Heritage Sawmill Marketplace. Guest speaker will be Mark Callaghan of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB).

4. New Business

- A. Rhéaume read the letter that the President sent to the Policy Working Group in order to add Aline Morissette as a member of the Hearst Accessibility Committee. He announced that this request has been approved by Municipal Council under Resolution no. 276-16.

President Portelance explained to A. Morissette that the committee attaches great importance to confidentiality and that every member has certain responsibilities.

- A.M. Portelance asked members to remind people who have " Accessible parking permits " (APP) to always display their permit on the dashboard or sun visor of their car so the permit number and expiry date is clearly visible. Marcel Dillon suggested that a column be written about this in the local paper. Julie Lanoix suggested that a capsule also be written for community radio.
- At the Chair's request, Marcel Dillon read the support letter that has been prepared for Yves Morrissette. This letter is to demonstrate the Committee's support toward the Town request for funding under the "Accessibility Fund " program for the installation of automatic door mechanisms for the Claude Larose Recreation Centre.
- A.M. Portelance announced that the Hearst Accessibility Committee is now a member of the "Assemblée de la francophonie de l'Ontario." She thanked André Rhéaume for bringing this recommendation to Municipal Council.

5. Tip of the month

- President received the publication "**Disability-Related Information 2015**" that had been discussed during the previous meeting. She gave a copy to each member.
- **Canada Post's Cecogram services :**
A.M. Portelance explained that this is a service allowing specific items used by the blind people, to be mailed **free of postage**, for example Braille documentations. Every item of material for the use of the blind people shall be accepted by registered mail or, in Canada, Xpresspost mail **at no charge**.
<https://www.canadapost.ca/tools/pg/manual/pglitblind-e.asp>

6. Adjournment:

- President adjourned the meeting at 1:17 p.m.

The next public meeting will be held on October 25, 2016 at the Heritage Sawmill Marketplace. The next Executive Committee meeting will take place on Friday, November 25, 2016 at 12:00 pm (noon hour) in the Town Hall conference room.

Anne-Marie Portelance, President