

Brock Barrier Free Working Group Minutes for Nov. 17, 2008 Meeting

Attendance: Margaret Sanderson, Marie Cutler, Scott Walker, Marie Belliveau (Chaired meeting), Jeff Boggs, Sarah Marshall, Carly Marshall, Fran Owen, Judith Brooder, Beverley Boudreau, Roman Pizzacalla (ASL Interpreter), Mary Jane Wasynski, LeeAnn Cayer, Lynne Bubic, Kaitlyn McCuaig, Kelly Veld (Recording Secretary).

Regrets: Shelley Stewart

1. Call to order at circa 5:00 pm.

2. Welcome and Introduction of Guests:

- Introduction of Guests: Jody Thomas, BUSU President, Giselle DiSimone, Project Manager, CBRE, Leo Mieles, Architect, Diamond and Schmitt, Tom Arkell, Director, Community and Ancillary Services, Scott Roper, Project Manager, Facilities Management.
- Introductions around the table from committee members.

3. Minutes from October 20th approved.

4. Guest Presentation: Thistle Courtyard & Marketplace:

- Leo Mieles, Giselle DiSimone, Tom Arkell and Scott Roper presented the general design concepts and preliminary drawings of the project. The committee provided their feedback with respect to counter height, swing gates, way finding signage (tactile), contrast colours/textures and designated accessible entry space (ideally in the proximity of an elevator).
- The committee approved a motion to have a feasibility study completed for renovating the lower Schmon Tower washrooms in order to make them each fully accessible. The presenters will join our committee again on Jan. 19th in order to look at the end results of the design development stage.

Motion: LeeAnn Cayer, Seconded: Marie Cutler, **Approved**

5. Installation of change table in accessible/single use washroom:

- Brock University Student Union (BUSU) President: Jody Thomas joined our meeting to seek feedback from our committee on the best location to install a new change table, preferably on the east side of campus as one already exists in the Walker Complex.

- The committee recommended it be installed (as per FADS) in the Plaza Building, either on the 200 or 300 level unisex washroom.

6. Renewal Funds for David S. Howes Theatre:

- Scott Walker advised that potential funds may be available for improvements to this space. Margaret Sanderson distributed Audit recommendations for this location, which the committee endorsed fully.
- The committee also provided suggestions to consider if funding is forthcoming: painting or signage indicating seating area for individuals with accessibility needs, additional seating provided for their attendants, hard-wired FM amplification systems (e.g. phonic ear), nosing improvements on the stairs, installation of adjustable table tops or writing desks at the guardrail for students using this space as a classroom and the installation of additional receptacles for laptop hook-up.

7. Office of Human Rights and Equity Reel Life Film Festival:

- Lynne Bubic discussed the Festival coming up on Jan. 27th. Volunteers interested in presenting films or assisting with the evening may contact Lynne or Marla Portfilio. Margaret will co-host a film. Marie Belliveau offered to assist; she also suggested the film “Cock-eyed”. Beverley suggested the film “Through Deaf Eyes Only” as another option. The event is free and popcorn is supplied.

8. “2 Minute Updates”:

- Curb cut at the front of Schmon Tower is always blocked. Margaret met with Al Ross and Donna Moody about this problem; it needs to be properly identified with signage for para-transit passengers with disabilities drop-off.
- Judith suggested having the drop off in H-Lot; it is less hectic and more accessible.
- Committee suggested that Al Ross be invited to attend our next meeting in December to hear suggestions/issues.

9. Meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm.

10. Next Meeting: Monday, December 15th at 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm.