



**TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
HEALTHY, ACCESSIBLE COMMUNITY AND PARKS COMMITTEE
AGENDA**

THURSDAY January 16, 2025 – 3:00 p.m. - ZOOM

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Recommendation: *Be it resolved that the agenda as presented be approved.*

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Recommendation: *Be it resolved that the minutes of the Healthy, Accessible Community and Parks Committee from their meeting of October 17, 2024 be approved as circulated.*

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING / OUTSTANDING ITEMS

5.1 Workplan Update

6. NEW BUSINESS

- 6.1
- Chantèle Mayer, SMDHU
 - Nutritious Food Basket Survey - Update
 - Household Food Insecurity in Essa

7. CORRESPONDENCE / INFORMATION ITEMS

8. OTHER BUSINESS/ ROUND TABLE

8.1 Essa Public Library Update

8.2 Parks and Recreation Update

9. ESTABLISH DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

- 9.1 Set date for next quarterly meeting.
- April 17, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Recommendation: *Be it resolved that this meeting of the Healthy, Accessible Community and Parks Committee of the Township of Essa adjourn at _____p.m.*



TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
HEALTHY, ACCESSIBLE COMMUNITY AND PARKS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
THURSDAY October 17, 2024
Meeting Conducted via Zoom

In Attendance:

Cheryl Jackson, Chair
Stephanie McCann, Member
Deputy Mayor Michael Smith

Staff:

Sarah Corbett, Deputy Clerk, Secretary
Emily Nakeff, Essa Public Library
Abbey McClinton, Parks and Recreation-Booking

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

The Committee Chair, Cheryl Jackson, opened the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution No: HACPC11-2024 Moved by: McCann Seconded by: Smith

Be it resolved that the agenda as presented be approved.

----Carried-----

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolution No: HACPC12-2024 Moved by: Smith Seconded by: McCann

Be it resolved that the minutes of the Healthy Community Committee dated July 16, 2024, be received.

----Carried-----

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING / OUTSTANDING ITEMS

5.1 Workplan Update – Cheryl

**To be updated
and distributed
with agenda**

6. NEW BUSINESS

- 6.1 Audra Marshall**
- **Pollinator Garden**

A. Marshall provided the Committee with an update of the current Pollinator Gardens (LeClair Park and

Sunflower
Seeds to be
provided by
the Library.

Admin Centre). She advised that they were realized by an RBC Grant in 2021-2022. She asked that the Committee take on clearing out the debris in Fall/Spring.

7. CORRESPONDENCE / INFORMATION ITEMS

8. OTHER BUSINESS/ ROUND TABLE

- 8.1 **Essa Public Library** No Action
Emily Nakeff, Essa Public Library provided the Committee with Required
an overview of the programming including the installation of an
accessible picnic table made available through a government
community grant
- 8.2 **Parks and Recreation** No Action
Abbey McClinton Parks and Recreation Department, , provided Required
an update to the Committee on the Parks and Recreation
department including an update of the new park/parkette
installations and inclusive drop in programing.

9. ESTABLISH DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

- 9.1 The next committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday January 15, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom. **SC to schedule.**

10. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No: HACPC13-2024 Moved by: Smith Seconded by: McCann

Be it resolved that this meeting of the Healthy, Accessible Community and Parks Committee of the Township of Essa adjourn at 3:54 p.m.

----Carried----

Cheryl Jackson, Chair

Sarah Corbett, Deputy Clerk

**Essa Township
Healthy, Accessible Communities and Parks Committee
Work Plan 2022-2026
Internal Document**

Activity	Task	Timeline Start - End	Lead (L) & Others (O) Involved	Budget	Status O-Completed Δ-In progress X- Hold	Additional Information
MANDATE : The Healthy, Accessible Community and Parks Committee is dedicated to advise and assist the Township in promoting and facilitating a barrier-free healthy community while improving the quality of life for all persons and promoting equal opportunity for citizens of all abilities.						
1.Promote healthy living and access to eating local food	Create a Healthy, Accessible Communities and Parks brochure outlining the committee’s goal, objective, and community activities available	Q3 2023 – Q1 2024	(L)-Essa Township	N/A	O	2024.07.18 printed and distributed, found at Arenas and Township Building.
	Accessibility of community gardens – goal to have one raised bed that is wheelchair accessible at each Essa library.	Q2 – Q3 2024	(L)-Essa Township	Unkno wn	O	2024.05.25 confirmed there is a garden that is raised at Thorton Library and is wheelchair accessible, there is a raised garden at the Food Bank (Angus Library) also accessible.
	Expansion and more accessibility of community gardens at each Essa library		(L)-Essa Township	N/A	X	2024.07.18 found that both Libraries were struggling with finding volunteers for the community gardens, the library staff were doing most of the planting, weeding, watering and maintaining.

Activity	Task	Timeline Start - End	Lead (L) & Others (O) Involved	Budget	Status O-Completed Δ-In progress X- Hold	Additional Information
2. Promote Healthy Living and active lifestyles for all residents and assist in planning future trails, sidewalks, canoeing and kayaking launches, as well as parks, and public spaces	Promote active school travel through communications assets (e.g. social media)	Q1 2024 – Ongoing	(L)-Essa Township	N/A	0	2024.02.07 – Promotion of Winter Walk Day completed through social media.
	New 2025 promotion of school travel.	Q1 2025 – Ongoing	(L)-Essa Township	N/A	Δ	2025.02.07 -
	Continue to promote winter walk day	Q1 2025	(L)-Essa Township	N/A		2024.02.? - ask community to also participate?
	Promote new parks and features of existing parks (healthy and barrier-free)	Q3 2024 - Ongoing	(L)-Essa Township	N/A	Δ	2024.07.18 feedback on new park development 2024.09.25 open house Plans review
	Attend Transportation and Trails Master Plan Open Houses in order to bring back information to the committee for discussion and potential input on behalf of the HACP Committee	Q2-Q3 2024	(L)-Essa Township	N/A		Need to confirm Essa or Simcoe County
3. Promote safe roads, reduction in personal	Promote active transportation through social media posts		(L)-Essa Township	N/A	Δ	Essa Township Website added links

Activity	Task	Timeline Start - End	Lead (L) & Others (O) Involved	Budget	Status O-Completed Δ-In progress X- Hold	Additional Information
vehicle use and energy conservation	Work with Simcoe County to feedback community concerns		(L)-Essa Township	N/A	Δ	Request for letter to Simcoe County to feedback concerns
	Review and provide input on the Township of Essa Official Plan on behalf of of the committee		Others (O)	N/A	Δ	2024.09.25 open house Plans review attended
	Promotion of Charged for Change Stations through communication assets.	Q2 2024-2026	(L)-Essa Township	N/A	O	Essa Township Website added information
4. Advocate on behalf of persons with disabilities through the promotion of public awareness and understanding the needs of disabled persons	Attend flag raising at Essa Township Building. National Accessibility week May 26 to June 1 2024	Q3 2024	(L)Essa Township	N/A	O	2024.05.27
Advocate on behalf of persons with disabilities through change	Work with Essa Parks and Rec to create an safe walkway link from new park on Kevin Crescent and Olive Lee Park in Thornton	Q3 2024	Others (O)	N/A	O	2024.07.18 Parks and Rec smoothed out area added crushed limestone which they already had for the park, just ensured this area was safe for all.
5. Monitor the status of municipality owned and/or operated buildings, facilities and public areas to						

Activity	Task	Timeline Start - End	Lead (L) & Others (O) Involved	Budget	Status O-Completed Δ-In progress X- Hold	Additional Information
ensure that they meet the needs of disabled people						
6. Identify any potential funding opportunities to assist Essa in becoming healthy and barrier free	Provide information on funding opportunity from Tree Canada.	Q4 2023	SMDHU	N/A	O	2023.10.19. Funding opportunity shared with municipal staff
7. Respond to relevant accessibility issues as raised by individuals or community groups	Encourage residents of the Township of Essa through social media messages and other communication assets to reach out to the committee to raise accessibility issues.					Pamphlet lists contact information
8. Provide a forum for discussion and coordination of recreational and healthy community initiatives and programs with other community groups and agencies	Bring awareness to the community through communications assets of pollinators and gardens in the Spring.	Q2 2024	(L)-Essa Public Library (O)-Committee	N/A	Δ	2024.04.25 - Can use messaging already created by <i>Conseil Canadien du COMPOST Council of Canada</i>

Activity	Task	Timeline Start - End	Lead (L) & Others (O) Involved	Budget	Status O-Completed Δ-In progress X- Hold	Additional Information
	Essa Family Fun Night		committee			2024.08.15 use forum to explain the work we do and ask for feedback
9. Work with Township staff in the maintenance of the Essa Accessibility Plan in accordance with the Ontarians with Disabilities Act	Provide verbal feedback of having accessible seating in new parks.	??	(L)-Essa Township	??	Δ	2024.01.18 – awaiting assessment of having a wheelchair accessible picnic table at new parks.
	Assess trail accessibility and mark which trails are accessible for all ages and abilities	2025				
10. Support the development and implementation of program, policies and by-laws which promote and create a barrier-free healthy community	Develop a policy for winter maintenance of sidewalks, paths and trails	2025				
11. Provide advice to Staff and Council on policy matters and relating to the provision of recreational, cultural and related services,	Accessibility Flag Raising Accessibility awareness about the importance of inclusivity and accessibility in our community.	2024 to 2026	Essa Township Community members	N/A	Δ	2024.05.27 HACP Chair Attended the Flag raising.

Activity	Task	Timeline Start - End	Lead (L) & Others (O) Involved	Budget	Status O-Completed Δ-In progress X- Hold	Additional Information
events for residents and visitors.						
12. Make recommendation to Council on strategies and policies to ensure that existing barriers are eliminated, and that no new barriers will be created especially at parks and in public spaces	Bring forward the recommendation that Council write a letter of recommendation to Simcoe County Council on eliminating accessibility barriers at Simcoe Links bus stops and recommending the installation of audible crosswalks in Angus.	Q2 2024	(L)-Committee	0	Δ	Status???
13. Make recommendations to council on amenities to be contained in parks, park and facility planning and policies for park and facility use.	Make Accessibility Check List for new Parks. Do a Parks, trails and Township facility Audit for accessibility	2024-2026				