



**AFRICAN DESCENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
November 9, 2023**

PRESENT: Chioma Ogbanufe, Chair
Andrew Howe, Vice Chair
Councillor Lindell Smith
Darryl Johnson
Jerry Taylor
Mapfumo Chidzonga
Renée Babin
Taylah Carvery
Missy Searl

REGRETS: Councillor Iona Stoddard
Treno Morton
Keisha Cain
Tanya Bundy

STAFF: Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity and Inclusion
Tamar Brown-Pryor, African Nova Scotian Affairs Advisor
Russell Brooks, Anti-Black Racism Program Coordinator
Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at halifax.ca.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. and the Committee adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

1.1 African Nova Scotian Affirmation

Tamar Brown-Pryor, African Nova Scotian Affairs Advisor led the Committee in the African Nova Scotian Affirmation.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 11, 2023

MOVED by Renée Babin, seconded by Mapfumo Chidzonga

THAT the minutes of September 11, 2023 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions: None

Deletions: None

Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk and Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

Jerry Taylor provided a brief history of Africville and highlighted the importance of the inclusion of the Africville Visioning Process on future agendas for discussion.

MOVED by Renée Babin, seconded by Darryl Johnson

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence - None

7.2 Petitions – None

7.3 Presentation – None

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 ANSAIO Monthly Update

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff presentation dated November 9, 2023

Tamar Brown-Pryor, African Nova Scotian Affairs Advisor, Russel Brooks, Anti-Black Racism Program Coordinator and Jasalynn Skeete, ANSAIO Engagement Liaison gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

The Committee noted their interest in obtaining future information on upcoming employment circles and suggested that the ANSAIO distribute the information through the Clerk's Office.

9.1.2 Proposed 2024 Meeting Schedule

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff memorandum dated November 3, 2023

MOVED by Darryl Johnson, seconded by Mapfumo Chidzonga

THAT the African Descent Advisory Committee approve the 2024 African Descent Advisory Committee meeting schedule as outlined in the staff memorandum.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

9.2.1 Councillor Smith – How Municipal Government Works

The following was before the Committee:

- Presentation dated November 9, 2023

Councillor Smith and Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity and Inclusion responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

9.2.2 Darryl Johnson – African Nova Scotian Representation in the Halifax Regional Police

MOVED by Darryl Johnson, seconded by Andrew Howe

THAT the African Descent Advisory Committee recommends the Executive Standing Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to request a staff report on:

- 1. The representation of people of African Nova Scotian descent in the Halifax Regional Police force;**
- 2. The status of the all-African descent cadet class;**
- 3. An understanding of education provided to all officers around systemic racism; and**
- 4. That the staff report be provided to the African Nova Scotian Descent Advisory Committee for review and possible recommendation.**

Darryl Johnson proposed part 2 of the motion specify the year 1993. As provided for in section 53 (2) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

Jerry Taylor proposed part 3 of the motion include education provided to all officers on all matters. As provided for in section 53 (2) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion now read:

MOVED by Darryl Johnson, seconded by Andrew Howe

THAT the African Descent Advisory Committee recommends the Executive Standing Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to request a staff report on:

- 1. The representation of people of African Nova Scotian descent in the Halifax Regional Police force;**
- 2. The status of the all-African descent cadet class of 1993;**
- 3. An understanding of education provided to all officers around systemic racism and all matters; and**
- 4. That the staff report be provided to the African Nova Scotian Descent Advisory Committee for review and possible recommendation.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.2.3 Future Agenda Planning Discussion

Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

Jerry Taylor noted that they intended to bring forward motions related to the revision of the HRM Affordable Housing Program, discussion of municipal policies and discussions regarding Africville, and request the upgrade to community acknowledgements.

The Committee agreed to send future agenda topics to the Clerk's office.

10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – To be determined

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Dorothy Maponga
Legislative Assistant