



**WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
February 1, 2024**

PRESENT: Jacquie Gahagan, Chair
Hannah Jackson, Vice Chair
Councillor Pam Lovelace
Jane McKay-Nesbitt
Sonia Ikheloa
Elizabeth Fraser

REGRETS: Councillor Becky Kent
Maggie Hua

STAFF: Amy Brierley, Social Policy Strategist, Community Safety
Baylee Brown, Coordinator 2SLGBTQ+ /Gender Equity Community
Engagement and Research
Elizabeth Macdonald, 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 4:33 p.m., the Committee adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:33 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.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 11, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Hannah Jackson

THAT the minutes of January 11, 2024 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- Item 10.1 Jane McKay-Nesbitt: Outgoing Chair Remarks
- Item 10.2 Jane McKay-Nesbitt: HRM's Public Appointment Policy

Deletions: None

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Elizabeth Fraser

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Later in the meeting, it was MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Hannah Jackson

THAT the following item be deferred to the March 7, 2024 meeting of Women's Advisory Committee:

- **Item 7.3.1 - Review of the Indigenous Women and Two Spirit Campaign School and Leadership Summit – Cheryl Copage-Gehue**

MOTION TO DEFER 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

7.3.1 Review of the Indigenous Women and Two Spirit Campaign School and Leadership Summit – Cheryl Copage-Gehue

This matter was deferred; refer to the Order of Business.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 2024 Work Plan

The following was before the Committee:

- Draft 2024 Women's Advisory Committee Work Plan

The Committee discussed revising the performance indicators in the 2024 Work Plan at a future date.

Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Hannah Jackson

THAT the Women's Advisory Committee approve the 2024 Work Plan as circulated and recommend that the Executive Standing Committee review and approve the Women's Advisory Committee 2024 Work Plan.

Councillor Lovelace proposed the addition of "and by May 1, 2024, the Committee will review and make amendments to the 2024 Work Plan". 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 Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Hannah Jackson

THAT the Women's Advisory Committee approve the 2024 Work Plan as circulated and recommend that the Executive Standing Committee review and approve the Women's Advisory Committee 2024 Work Plan and by May 1, 2024, the Committee will review and make amendments to the 2024 Work Plan.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.1.2 Muslim Women Safety Report Update

Amy Brierley, Social Policy Strategist, Community Safety spoke to the progress of the Muslim Safety Report. Brierley noted the report is targeting the February 26, 2024 meeting of the Executive Standing Committee.

9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

9.2.1 Regional Council Update

Councillor Lovelace provided an overview of the activities of Regional Council and Budget Committee since January 9, 2024. Councillor Lovelace noted Halifax Regional Council's discussion of the implementation of the Halifax Common Master Plan and that a public hearing was held at the January 23, 2024 meeting of Council regarding amendments to the Regional Centre Secondary Municipal Planning Strategy (RCSMPS). They spoke to upcoming Municipal Planning changes expected in the coming months concerning densification in relation to the Housing Accelerator Fund. Councillor Lovelace suggested the Committee receive a presentation regarding changes to the RCSMPS at a future meeting.

10. ADDED ITEMS

10.1 Jane McKay-Nesbitt: Outgoing Chair Remarks

Jane McKay-Nesbitt congratulated the newly elected Chair and Vice Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee. McKay-Nesbitt acknowledged the work accomplished by the Committee since its inception in 2020 and thanked the Municipal Clerk's Office for its ongoing support.

10.2 Jane McKay-Nesbitt: HRM's Public Appointment Policy

MOVED by Jane McKay-Nesbitt, seconded by Elizabeth Fraser

THAT the Women's Advisory Committee recommend that the Executive Standing Committee direct the Chief Administrative Office (CAO) to provide a staff report to consider updating the Public Appointment Policy so that positions on the Women's Advisory Committee that become vacant prior to the expected expiry of a member's term of office are filled within a month of a position becoming vacant.

The Committee discussed inviting staff to the March 7, 2024 meeting to speak to the Halifax Regional Municipality's Public Appointment Policy.

Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

As provided for in section 66 of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the motion was withdrawn with consent of the Women's Advisory Committee.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – March 7, 2024

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

Elizabeth Macdonald
Legislative Assistant