



**ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 17, 2025**

PRESENT: Céline Vautour, Chair
Rachele Manett, Vice Chair
Councillor Trish Purdy
Councillor Laura White
Councillor Jean St-Amand
Glenn Babcock
Nikolas Harris
Anne Sinclair
Jamil Sinno
Cathi Stevenson

REGRETS: Oliver Keith – Leave of Absence

STAFF: Melissa Myers, Accessibility Advisor
Laura Bain, Accessibility Coordinator
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.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:04 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 New Committee Member Introductions

Committee members provided introductory remarks.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 24, 2025

MOVED by Councillor Purdy, seconded by Councillor St-Amand

THAT the minutes of February 24, 2025 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

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Nikolas Harris

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

7.3.1 Emergency Wheelchair Rescue Services – *Carol Arsenault and Gerry Post*

The following was before the Committee:

- Request for presentation dated February 25, 2025

Gerry Post and Brendon Ewing, Seniors Transit – Extra Care Taxi gave a presentation regarding the need for an emergency wheelchair rescue service in the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Post, Ewing and Carol Arsenault responded to question of clarification from the Committee.

Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee and clarified the Committee may move a motion on a matter arising from a presentation by recommending the Executive Standing Committee request a staff report.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 2025 Town Hall Planning

The following was before the Committee:

- Handout dated March 17, 2025

Melissa Myers, Accessibility Advisor spoke to the Town Hall planning process, urged the Committee to decide on a date for the 2025 Town Hall and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

Rachele Manett, Vice Chair provided an overview of past Accessibility Advisory Committee's Annual Town Halls and spoke to the 2025 Town Hall planning discussion at the February 24, 2025 Committee meeting.

Mairead Barry, Director of Strategy, Halifax Public Libraries and Darren Young, Manager, Major Projects, Facility Design & Construction responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

The Committee discussed hosting the 2025 Town Hall on November 5, 2025 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and noted an interest in having representatives from the following Municipal Business Units on the panel:

- Halifax Transit;
- Public Works;
- Planning & Development;
- Parks & Recreation; and
- Community Safety.

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

10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – April 28, 2025

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Elizabeth Macdonald
Legislative Assistant