



**ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
May 30, 2022**

**PRESENT:** Andrew Taylor, Chair  
Jacki Purcell, Vice Chair  
Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon  
Councillor Paul Russell  
Elizabeth Doull  
Jordan Waterbury  
Kristen Hemming  
Michelle Mahoney  
Nicole McDonald  
Rachele Manett

**STAFF:** Melissa Myers, Accessibility Advisor, Office of Diversity & Inclusion/ANSAIO  
Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion/ANSAIO  
Annie Sherry, Legislative Assistant  
Catie Campbell, Legislative Assistant  
Kim Johnson, Legislative Support

*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](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m. and adjourned at 6:17 p.m.*

**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.

As requested at the April 25, 2022 meeting, members of the Committee introduced themselves, shared what has brought them to the Committee, and staff outlined their roles in the Municipality and with the Committee.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 25, 2022**

MOVED by Jacki Purcell, seconded by Rachele Manett

**THAT the minutes of April 25, 2022 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 Deagle Gammon, seconded by Kristen Hemming

**THAT the agenda be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Later in the meeting, it was MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Jacki Purcell

**THAT the following item be deferred to a Special Meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee:**

- **Item 9.1.3 2022 Work Plan Discussion**

**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**

General correspondence was received and circulated.

**7.2 Petitions – None**

**7.3 Presentations – None**

**8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

## **9. REPORTS**

### **9.1 STAFF**

#### **9.1.1 Culture and Heritage Priorities Plan Update and Consultation**

The following was before the Accessibility Advisory Committee:

- Staff presentation dated March 2021

Aaron Murnaghan, Principal Planner, Regional Planning gave an update on the Cultural and Heritage Priorities Plan and responded to questions of clarification from the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

In response to the presentation, the Committee expressed interest in which organizations from the accessibility community were engaged to provide input for developing the Plan, the timeline for next steps, and expressed interest in seeing survey results, engagement reports and the Plan once completed.

#### **9.1.2 Presentation from Managing Director of the Office of Diversity & Inclusion/ANSAIO**

Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion/ANSAIO led a discussion about the role of the Accessibility Advisory Committee in anticipation of developing the Committee's 2022 Work Plan.

Reflecting on the Committee's Terms of Reference and Duties of the Committee as outlined in Administrative Order 2017-005-GOV, *Respecting the Advisory Committee on Accessibility in the Halifax Regional Municipality*, Jones-Grant highlighted the ways that the Committee is empowered to influence the policies and actions of the Municipality. These included:

- Making motions to the Executive Standing Committee to request staff reports on issues of interest
- Working with the Accessibility Advisor and Legislative Assistant to request presentations from Business Units to influence or make recommendations to existing or proposed By-laws, policies, and programs
- Engaging in community consultations and hosting the annual town hall
- Bringing forward issues raised within the community to this Committee for discussion and action
- Reflecting on the Accessibility Strategy as the Committee's Work Plan is developed.

The Committee expressed an interest the following topics to guide the work of the Municipality:

- Having presentations from Business Units and making recommendations regarding:
  - Parking Services – Accessible parking in the HRM
  - Solid Waste Management - Green bin regulations
  - Public Works – Traffic Signage
- Reviewing By-laws through the lens of equity and inclusion
- Municipal Services for those with intellectual disabilities
- Having monthly updates on what is being discussed at Regional Council from the Councillors on the Committee

Members of the Committee further expressed the desire to hold a special meeting to discuss and develop the 2022 work plan.

#### **9.1.3 2022 Work Plan Discussion**

The following was before the Accessibility Advisory Committee:

- Advisory Committee on Accessibility in Halifax Regional Municipality 2021 Work Plan
- Draft 2022 Work Plan Structure

This matter was deferred, refer to Order of Business.

**9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS – NONE**

**9.3 STAFF UPDATES**

**9.3.1 Zatzman Sportsplex Renovations Update**

The following was before the Accessibility Advisory Committee:

- Draft video dated May 2, 2022

Darren Young, Manager of Building Infrastructure, Property, Fleet and Environment, shared a draft video highlighting accessibility enhancements resulting from the Zatzman Sportsplex renovations and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee regarding gender-neutral washrooms, railings in change rooms, the height of chairs in seating areas, and higher contrast for signage in the Welcome area.

In response to the video, Committee members made recommendations regarding:

- Sequencing voice-overs with visuals of accessible features
- Highlighting that wayfinding that has been installed in the building
- Inclusion of safety precautions regarding COVID-19

Members of the Committee further expressed interest in a tour of the facility and recommended promoting the renovations to the Zatzman Sportsplex during Access Awareness Week.

**10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – June 20, 2022**

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Kim Johnson  
Legislative Support