



**WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
December 4, 2023**

PRESENT: Jane McKay-Nesbitt, Chair
Hannah Jackson, Vice Chair
Councillor Pam Lovelace
Councillor Becky Kent
Liz Fraser
Maggie Hua
Sonia Ikehloa

REGRETS: Jacquie Gahagan

STAFF: Amy Brierley, Social Policy Strategist, Community Safety
Baylee Brown, 2SLGBTQ+ Community Engagement and Research
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.

The meeting was called to order at 4:43 p.m., the Committee adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:43 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 – October 5, 2023 and November 2, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Becky Kent, seconded by Hannah Jackson

THAT the minutes of October 5, 2023 be deferred to a future meeting of the Women's Advisory Committee to allow staff to consult with Councillor Patty Cuttell and Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon regarding pronoun use.

As provided for in section 93 of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the Committee requested a recorded vote.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED. (6 in favour, 1 against)

In favour: Jane McKay-Nesbitt, Hannah Jackson, Councillor Lovelace, Councillor Kent, Maggie Hua, Sonia Ikehloa

Against: Liz Fraser

Not present: Jacquie Gahagan

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Maggie Hua

THAT the minutes of November 2, 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

MOVED by Liz Fraser, seconded by Hannah Jackson

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/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Discussion of Workplan 2024

The following was before the Committee:

- Women's Advisory Committee Approved 2023 Work Plan

The Committee identified and discussed issues they would like included in the 2024 Work Plan:

- Gender gaps in financial literacy
- Homelessness and food security
- Gender pay inequities
- Improving Public Safety Strategies
- Intimate partner violence
- Impact of the climate crisis on women
- Road safety initiatives
- Women in non-traditional roles

The Committee expressed an interest in playing a more active role in reviewing and advising on proposed Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) policies from a gendered and intersectional lens before they go to Standing Committees and Regional Council for approval. The Committee also indicated interest in receiving a staff presentation outlining Municipal jurisdiction as it related to the mandate of the Women's Advisory Committee at a future meeting.

Amy Brierley, Social Policy Strategist, Community Safety spoke to the Committee's ability to build upon current and past work undertaken by HRM staff as it related to their mandate.

9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

9.2.1 Councillor Kent: Regional Council Update

Councillor Kent provided an overview of Regional Council's Activities since November 2023 including the approval of a motion regarding Incentive or Bonus Zoning, the upcoming School Safe Streets Pilot Program, Commemorative naming initiatives, the approval of additional funding for volunteer Ground Search and Rescue teams and the upcoming Canada Soccer Toyota National Championships that would be hosted by HRM in October 2024.

10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – January 11, 2024

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Elizabeth Macdonald
Legislative Assistant