



**WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
November 5, 2020**

PRESENT: Jane McKay-Nesbitt, Chair
Christine Qin Yang, Vice Chair
Deputy Mayor Lisa Blackburn
Lilian Barraclough
Tanya Boudreau
Holly Mathias
Mallory LeBlanc
Charla Dorrington

REGRETS: Haneen Al-Noman

OTHERS PRESENT: Councillor Iona Stoddard
Councillor Pam Lovelace

STAFF: Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant
Haruka Aoyama, Legislative Assistant
Caroline Hemstock, Diversity and Inclusion Advisor
Brandy Whitford, Community Safety Intern

These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by Regional Council at a future meeting.

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.

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The meeting was called to order at 4:08 p.m. and the Committee adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m. and led the Committee in roundtable introduction.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 25, 2020

An amendment was made to include Amy Siciliano's comment to bring a report on the UN Women Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces Programme to the Committee toward the end of 2020 under item 6.1.1.

MOVED by Christine Qin Yang, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blackburn

THAT the minutes of September 25, 2020 be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

MOVED by Mallory LeBlanc, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blackburn

The Committee requested that item 6.1.2 to be dealt with prior to item 6.1.1.

THAT the order of business be approved as amended.

Two-third majority vote required.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

5. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS – NONE

5.1 Correspondence – None

5.2 Petitions – None

5.3 Presentation – None

6. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

6.1 STAFF

6.1.1 Overview of Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) process

Huwaida Medani, Senior Advisor and Caroline Hemstock, Diversity and Inclusion Advisor, Office of Diversity and Inclusion/ANSAIO, gave an overview of Gender Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) and responded to questions from members of Women's Advisory Committee. A copy of the presentation is on file.

The Chair encouraged members to take the GBA+ course of the Status of Women Canada <https://cfc-swc.gc.ca/gba-acsc/course-cours-en.html>.

6.1.2 Overview of Women's Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

The following was before the Committee:

- A copy of Administrative Order Number 2019-004-GOV respecting the Women's Advisory Committee in the Halifax Regional Municipality (Terms of Reference)

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Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant gave an overview of Women's Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference with emphasis on Section 5: Objectives and Sections 6-9: Duties of the Committee and responded to questions from the Committee. Vining pointed out that pursuant to section 129 of Administrative Order One, members of Halifax Regional Council who do not serve on the committee may attend the Committee meetings and *shall be allowed to take part in discussion or debate but shall not move or second a motion and shall not vote*. Vining also spoke on the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIPOP).

Tracey Jones-Grant, Director of Diversity and Inclusion provided comments on the Women's Advisory Committee's mandate, noting that Diversity and Inclusion Office was developing a Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) Toolkit that could be used internally and externally.

In response to a question on section 11 Privacy Issues, a copy of the Access and Privacy Pamphlet for HRM Volunteer Boards and Committees would be provided to members for their reference.

A question was raised on understanding why racialized women were not included as designated members of the Women's Advisory Committee, section 14 of the Committee's Terms of Reference, to which staff advised they would look into and report back to the Committee.

6.1.3 Work Plan Session: Identify Top 3 Priority Areas

The Committee discussed the priority areas identified at the September 25, 2020 meeting and selected the top three priorities to develop their Work Plan:

- Housing security for women (homelessness and shelters, and affordability);
- Engagement of women in municipal politics, and in municipal governance and issues;
- Updating existing municipal policies using gender-based analysis.

The Chair clarified that the three priorities does not mean that the Committee would exclude consideration on other priority areas identified at the September 25, 2020 meetings in future work planning.

It was noted that at the next meeting, the Committee would consider potential outcomes, goals, activities and resources needed for the three priority areas.

6.1.4 Proposed 2021 Women's Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule

The following was before the Committee:

- A copy of proposed 2021 Meeting Schedule Women's Advisory Committee

MOVED by Charla Dorrington, seconded by Christine Qin Yang

THAT the Women's Advisory Committee approve the proposed 2021 meeting schedule as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – December 3, 2020

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Haruka Aoyama
Legislative Assistant