



**WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
July 8, 2021**

PRESENT: Jane McKay-Nesbitt, Chair
Christine Qin Yang, Vice Chair
Tanya Boudreau
Holly Mathias
Mallory LeBlanc
Councillor Lisa Blackburn

REGRETS: Councillor Iona Stoddard
Lilian Barraclough
Haneen Al-Noman
Charla Dorrington

STAFF: Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director of Diversity & Inclusion/ANSAIO
Haruka Aoyama, 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 4:02 p.m. and the Committee adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 3, 2021

MOVED by Mallory LeBlanc, seconded by Holly Mathias

THAT the minutes of June 3, 2021 be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

Additions: None

Deletions: None

Deferred to the September 9, 2021 meeting of Women's Advisory Committee:

- Item 9.2.2 Discussion and Presentation on Anti-Islamophobia: Experience of Muslim Women

MOVED by Councillor Blackburn, seconded by Christine Qin Yang

THAT the order of business be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

The Chair indicated that a response to correspondence provided by Jodi Brow at the June 3, 2021 meeting was sent.

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS – NONE

7.1 Correspondence – NONE

7.2 Petitions – NONE

7.3 Presentation

7.3.1 YMCA Centre for Immigrant Programs - Briana Miller, Coordinator of the GBVP Project at the YMCA Centre for Immigrant Programs

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff presentation dated July 8, 2021

Briana Miller, Coordinator of the GBVP Project at the YMCA Centre for Immigrant Programs gave a presentation on Gender-Based Violence Prevention Project and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

The Committee discussed and asked questions as follows:

- Isolation – are there any increase in demand for preventative services because of COVID-19?
- Do you have any other forms of advertisement? How do you get into school?
- Gender-based violence in public spaces
- Mental health and isolation – what approaches are taken to encourage immigrants/newcomers to open up and access to services?
- Organizational history of YMCA.
- What can HRM or Council do to make changes?

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Update on GBA+ from Office of Diversity and Inclusion

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff memorandum from Caroline Hemstock, Diversity and Inclusion Advisor and Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director of Diversity & Inclusion/ANSAIO

A written update was provided by Caroline Hemstock, Diversity and Inclusion Advisor.

9.1.2 Update on Office of Diversity and Inclusion

Tracey Jones-Grant, Executive Director of Diversity & Inclusion/ANSAIO provided an update on staff recommendation reports on GBA+, GBA+ tool kit, gender equity training for Halifax Regional Fire and French Language Service Strategy.

9.2 COMMITTEE

9.2.1 Regional Plan Review: Themes & Directions Report Follow Up

The following was before the Committee:

- A memorandum from Jane McKay-Nesbitt, Chair, Women's Advisory Committee titled Regional Plan Review – Women's Advisory Committee

MOVED by Christine Qin Yang, seconded by Tanya Boudreau

THAT the Women's Advisory Committee authorize Chair to submit a memorandum dated July 8, 2021 summarizing Women's Advisory Committee's comments and recommendation to Regional Plan team as part of Halifax Regional Municipality Planning Strategy Review.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.2.3 Update on Halifax Regional Council activities

Councillor Blackburn provided a summary of actions and decisions made at the June 8, 2021 and June 29, 2021 special meetings of Regional Council.

10. ADDED ITEMS

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – September 9, 2021

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

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Minutes
July 8, 2021**

Haruka Aoyama
Legislative Assistant