



**YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING NOTES  
April 21, 2022**

**PRESENT:** Abraham Amusan  
Carter Barss  
Cyril Jurdak O'Brien  
Jane Elliott  
Solomon Omweno  
Truelee Love  
Zoya Hussain

**REGRETS:** Ellen Smith, Chair  
Jane Kenny  
James MacNeil  
Krystal Mutyabule  
Stacie Smith

**STAFF:** Becca Bishop, Community Developer, Youth Section  
Andrea Lovasi-Wood, 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 5:07 p.m. and adjourned at 6:00 p.m.*

## **1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The meeting to order at 5:07 p.m. in the absence of the Chair and without selecting an acting chair, per section 28 (3) of Administrative Order One.

It was 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. COMMITTEE CHECK IN**

Members of the Youth Advisory Committee shared updates on their activities. It is a busy time of year for all for school/university, volunteer, and personal activities and commitments.

## **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 20, 2021 and July 19, 2021**

In the absence of a chair, the minutes will be brought to the next meeting for approval.

## **4. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

Additions: None

Deletions: None

## **5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE**

## **6. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

## **7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**

## **8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**8.1 Correspondence - None**

**8.2 Petitions – None**

**8.3 Presentations - None**

## **9. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

## **10. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

### **10.1 STAFF**

#### **10.1.1 Youth Advisory Committee 2022 Meeting Schedule**

The following was before the Youth Advisory Committee:

- 2022 Draft Youth Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule

Andrea Lovasi-Wood, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

In the absence of a chair, the meeting schedule will be brought to the next meeting for approval.

#### **10.1.2 Overview of the Role of the Chair**

The following was before the Youth Advisory Committee:

- Memorandum dated April 21, 2022, providing an Overview of the Role of the Chair

Andrea Lovasi-Wood, Legislative Assistant, reviewed the Memorandum. Lovasi-Wood indicated elections for positions of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Youth Advisory Committee will be held at the next scheduled meeting on May 19, 2022, and encouraged members to consider putting their name forward for one of the two positions.

### **10.1.3 Work Plan Brainstorming**

The following was before the Youth Advisory Committee:

- Draft Work Plan sample dated 2021
- Google Jam Board

Andrea Lovasi-Wood, Legislative Assistant reviewed the Objectives and Duties of the Committee as outlined in Section 5 and 6 of Administrative Order 2017-011-GOV Respecting the Youth Advisory Committee, to provide context and a framework for Work Plan brainstorming.

Becca Bishop, Community Developer, Youth Section introduced the brainstorming activity, asking members to reflect on their vision for the Committee's work in 2022.

Using the Google Jam Board, Committee members shared the following ideas:

- Advise the Executive Standing Committee on how to continually incorporate input from youth of all races, genders, and ability levels in Halifax's climate action plan;
- Advocating for more affordable housing / rent control / access to student housing;
- Advocating for / raising awareness about sustainable and affordable resources for youth, especially when transitioning to self-reliance;
- Creating accessible resources and taking an active role in fighting body dysmorphia and eating disorders in youth;
- Fighting food insecurity in youth, with possible outreach to the farmer's markets in HRM;
- Having different ways to reach out to youth, for example having posters at schools so that they are more involved in the community.

The voting feature of Google Jam Board was utilized to identify the following four priorities for the Committee's 2022 Work Plan:

- Climate Action (advise the Executive Standing Committee on how to continually incorporate input from youth of all races, genders, and ability levels in Halifax's climate action plan);
- Food Insecurity (fighting food insecurity in youth, with possible outreach to the farmer's markets in HRM).
- Housing (advocating for more affordable housing / rent control / access to student housing);
- Supporting Youth Self-Reliance (advocating for / raising awareness about sustainable and affordable resources for youth, especially when transitioning to self-reliance);

Bishop indicated that results of the brainstorming session will be compiled and presented for further discussion at the next meeting.

In the absence of a chair, this discussion held from this session will be brought to the next meeting for review and adoption.

### **11. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

### **12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – May 19, 2022**

### **13. COMMITTEE CHECK OUT**

Members of the Committee thanked their peers in turn for their varied insights and indicated they are excited to continue discussion on the four priorities and potential future actions of the Committee.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Kim Johnson  
Legislative Support