



**YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
June 15, 2023**

**PRESENT:** Cyril Jurdak O'Brien, Chair  
Zoya Hussain, Vice Chair  
Abraham Amusan  
Carter Barss  
Krystal Mutyabule

**REGRETS:** Jane Elliot  
James MacNeil

**STAFF:** Becca Bishop, Community Developer, Youth  
Lama Farhat, 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](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. The Committee adjourned at 6:03 p.m.*

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

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:05 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 – April 20, 2023 and May 18, 2023**

MOVED by Carter Barss, seconded by Abraham Amusan

**THAT the minutes of April 20, 2023 and May 18, 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:

- Item 9.2.2 – Brunch with the Mayor Debrief

MOVED by Abraham Amusan, seconded by Carter Barss

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

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

As provided for in section 37 (1) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the Committee requested that item 9.1.2 – Mobile Youth Support Team be considered prior to item 9.1.1

Later in the meeting, the Committee added the following:

- Item 9.2.3 Discussion on Staff Updates

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE**

**5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

**6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS**

**6.1 Work Plan Approval**

The following was before the Committee:

- Youth Advisory Committee 2023 Work Plan Handout

Lama Farhat, Legislative Assistant provided an overview of the draft Work Plan and noted the three priorities identified at the March 23, 2023 special meeting and April 20, 2023 meeting of the Committee:

1. Supporting Youth Well-Being with an emphasis on physical and social supports and resources for youth;
2. Climate Action – HalifACT; and
3. Youth Perspectives and Engagement on Municipal Elections and HRM's Social Policies with emphasis on youth involvement in elections, food security, housing, and the Public Safety Office.

MOVED by Zoya Hussain, seconded by Abraham Amusan

**THAT the 2023 Work Plan of the Youth Advisory Committee be approved and forwarded to the Executive Standing Committee.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

**7.1 Correspondence - None**

**7.2 Petitions – None**

**7.3 Presentation - None**

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

## **9. REPORTS**

### **9.1 STAFF**

#### **9.1.1 Park Lighting Strategy**

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff presentation dated June 15, 2023

Stephen Cushing, Landscape Architect gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee regarding cost and efficiency of non-traditional energy sources and the approval process of the strategy.

Members of the Committee provided the following feedback:

- Considerations for light pollution, particularly in densely populated areas;
- Motion censored lights, solar or hydro-powered charging for lights; and
- Intersectional approach for evaluations of space and safety.

#### **9.1.2 Mobile Youth Support Team**

Becky Kerr, Youth Counsellor provided an overview of the mobile youth support team, spoke to the role of the Youth Outreach Worker and Youth Counsellor, and detailed services offered. Kerr explained the role of Community Crisis Response and noted debrief opportunities are available in local recreation centres and alternative community locations when needed. Kerr responded to questions of clarification from the Committee regarding mobile crisis response offered at the Charles P. Allen High School.

## **9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

### **9.2.1 Discussion on By-law M-200 – Respecting Residential Standards**

The Chair provided an overview of the presentations received by the Committee on By-law M-200, *Respecting Standards for Residential Occupancies*, and HRM's affordable housing initiatives and rental registry.

Lama Farhat, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

MOVED by Carter Barss, seconded by Abraham Amusan

**THAT the Youth Advisory Committee recommend that the Executive Standing Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a staff report in consultation with the Youth Advisory Committee to develop a communications strategy on By-Law M-200, *Respecting Standards for Residential Occupancies*, and other housing related guidelines targeted to youth, first time renters, and newcomers.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **9.2.3 Discussion on Staff Updates**

The Committee discussed the overview received on the Mobile Youth Support Team and noted that additional community centres should be considered for youth support services. The Committee expressed

their interest in receiving additional presentations on mental health supports, including a future update on the mobile youth support team.

Becca Bishop, Community Developer, Youth responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

**10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – July 20, 2023**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Lama Farhat  
Legislative Assistant