



**WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
July 4, 2024**

PRESENT: Jacquie Gahagan, Chair
Hannah Jackson, Vice Chair
Councillor Pam Lovelace
Sherryll Murphy
Rhiannon Makohoniuk
Doreen Redmond

REGRETS: Councillor Becky Kent
Cheryl Copage-Gehue
Liz Fraser
Sonia Ikheloa
Zoey Zhou

STAFF: Carla John, Advisor Diversity & Inclusion, Office of Diversity & Inclusion (ANSAIO)
Baylee Brown, Coordinator 2SLGBTQ+/Gender Equity, Community Engagement and Research, Office of Diversity & Inclusion (ANSAIO)
Amy Brierley, Social Policy Strategist, Community Safety
Andrea Lovasi-Wood, 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](https://www.halifax.ca).

The meeting was called to order at 4:39 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 4:39 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 – June 20, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Pam Lovelace, seconded by Hannah Jackson

THAT the minutes of June 20, 2024 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

As provided for in section 37 (1) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, Hannah Jackson requested that Item 9.1.1 Overview of the Safe City and Safe Public Spaces Program be considered prior to item 6.1.

MOVED by Hannah Jackson, seconded by Councillor Pam Lovelace

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

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 – June 20, 2024

6.1 Discuss Revisions to the Women's Advisory Committee Approved 2024 Work Plan

The following was before the Committee:

- Women's Advisory Committee Approved 2024 Work Plan
- Handout dated July 4, 2024

The Committee discussed proposed revisions to their approved 2024 Work Plan. The Committee also discussed the need for Committee members to include motions on meeting agendas that reflected the Work Plan's priorities to encourage discussion and completion of these priorities.

Baylee Brown, Coordinator 2SLGBTQ+/Gender Equity, Community Engagement and Research, Office of Diversity & Inclusion (ANSAIO) responded to questions of clarification from the Committee. Brown spoke to the Office of Diversity & Inclusion's Indigenous Women and Two-Spirit Campaign School held in fall 2023, and the Elections team's ongoing public engagement sessions and work with the Office of Diversity & Inclusion to determine opportunities to reach out to Indigenous and African Nova Scotian communities regarding running in the upcoming municipal election. They also spoke to Halifax Regional Municipality's (HRM) Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA+) training.

Brown and Carla John, Advisor Diversity & Inclusion, Office of Diversity & Inclusion (ANSAIO) responded to questions of clarification from the Committee regarding HRM's mandatory employee onboarding training and confirmed that GBA+ training was not mandatory.

Andrea Lovasi-Wood, Legislative Assistant responded to questions of clarification from the Committee regarding the process Committee members were to use to bring motions forward to be included on a meeting's agenda.

MOVED by Hannah Jackson, seconded by Rhiannon Makohoniuk

THAT the Women's Advisory Committee approve the 2024 Work Plan as revised and recommend that the Executive Standing Committee review and approve the Women's Advisory Committee Revised 2024 Work Plan.

Committee members were encouraged to bring motions to future Committee meetings that reflected the Revised 2024 Work Plan priorities and their individual issues.

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/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Overview of the Safe City and Safe Public Spaces Program

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff presentation dated July 4, 2024

Amy Brierley, Social Policy Strategist, Community Safety gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee including future plans for public information campaigns and details about bystander intervention training. Brierley also spoke to the use of a nuanced approach when support was provided to people engaged in sex work which recognized that various levels of choice existed for people who chose to participate in sex work including commercial sexual exploitation.

The Committee discussed the need for improved street signage in Halifax Regional Municipality as well as the introduction and improvement of walking path signage within municipal parks to assist with safe wayfinding and to allow people to identify their location when needed to communicate with first responders if their safety was threatened.

10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – August 1, 2024

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Andrea Lovasi-Wood
Legislative Assistant