



**TOWN OF KENTVILLE**

**KENTVILLE INCLUSION AND ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes: January 14, 2022

Town Hall, 354 Main Street, Kentville Nova Scotia

**PRESENT (meeting held online)**

**Committee members:**

- Yuning Pan
- Bernie Zinck
- Spencer Laing
- Gerald MacPherson
- Councillor Cathy Maxwell
- Deputy Mayor Cate Savage

**Staff:**

- Rachel Bedingfield, Director of Parks and Recreation
- Jennifer West, Recording Secretary
- Dan Troke, Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Kentville

**REGRETS:**

Laurel Taylor

**1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Meeting is called to order at 9:36 a.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

It was moved by Cathy Maxwell and Cate Savage

**That the agenda for the Committee meeting of January 14, 2022 be approved.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

It was moved by Cathy Maxwell and Yuning Pan

**That the minutes for the Committee meeting of November 12, 2021 be approved.**

## **MOTION CARRIED**

It was moved by Cathy Maxwell and Yuning Pan

**That the minutes for the Committee meeting of December 14, 2021 be approved.**

## **MOTION CARRIED**

### **4. EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE**

(a) Internal Emotional Intelligence Training, and Community Training

- Members are looking for a series or courses that are ongoing education around EI.
- Members are also thinking about a lecture series or talking series on the topic of EI. These could be in different locations around the town.
- Review of the existing workshop hosted by Kentville and Carolyn Landry about the Seven Sacred Teachings. This class is going well.
- The committee could have a working group that would think about hosts and ideas for these public sessions.
- Idea of a living library to connect with people and their experiences and their stories.
- Is there someone at Acadia University who has expertise on EI?
- Comment that online learning is very difficult for learners who have English as a second language.

### **5. TRANSPORTATION**

**(a) Presentation from Director of Recreation Rachel Bedingfield**

Rachel Bedingfield gave a review of Kentville's active transportation plan priorities, education, seasonal considerations, mapping of demographics.

*Presentation available*

Discussion

- Comments about how the Town and other towns and cities are adapting to new transportation opportunities.
- The accessibility plan and active transportation are closely linked.

**(b) Presentation from Chief Administrative Officer Dan Troke**

Chief Administrative Officer Dan Troke gave a review of the Kings Transit pilot project and how it will influence transportation in the town in terms of planning for population growth, slopes, buses, new development areas and accessibility.

*Presentation available*

Discussion

- Support for having the incoming Kings Transit manager liaise with the accessibility committee.
- Send information to Dan about bussing and transportation to make sure important gets into these conversations.
- Is there a plan to bring Uber or other ride sharing service to the valley? This can be a major support for some people with accessibility issues. This is an important topic to include in this transportation pilot.

## **6. TOWN HALL UPDATE**

Rachel Bedingfield gave an update on town and staff activities around accessibility. The Town's training committee is taking on professional development as a staff with a focus on accessibility and inclusion, and also occupational health and safety. There is also a committee of management and key staff who meet to talk about the implementation of the accessibility committee and the active transportation committee. Other discussions have been happening among staff and other municipalities around the housing crisis in the valley. The Portal, Open Arms and many other groups have been working together to reduce homelessness. The town is always trying to find more tools, programs and devices to improve access, for example the Town purchased a Moby Mat to help wheelchairs access difficult terrain in some of the parks.

## **7. ACCESSIBILITY WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA**

### **(a) Rating Website**

Jennifer West gave a tour of the AXS mapping website (<https://axsmap.com/>) and some potential for a mapping project for Kentville.

Discussion about how to roll out a project like this to leave a positive legacy for residents, visitors and businesses.

### **(b) Social Media Launch and Zoom Picture**

Spencer discussed the potential of having a short time at the end of each meeting where we can read any feedback or requests about accessibility from the public. This section can be livestreamed to Facebook. This will rely on videos that explain what the committee does and how residents can reach out to [accessibility@kentville.ca](mailto:accessibility@kentville.ca)

No group photo was taken because some members were not present.

No live stream took place, instead there was a discussion about next steps and creating promotional videos for the committee.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

- Rachel to reach out to Acadia University to find any experts on Emotional Intelligence
- Spencer to reach out to the Kentville Business Community about a potential mapping project
- Jennifer and Bernie to meet to talk about two video projects

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

Cathy Maxwell moves to adjourn, Bernie Zinck seconds the motion.  
Meeting adjourned at 11:50 am.

Next meeting is on February 11, 2022 at 9:30am.