

**TOWN OF KENTVILLE**

**KENTVILLE INCLUSION AND ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes: April 8, 2022

**Town Hall, 354 Main Street, Kentville Nova Scotia**

# PRESENT

**Committee members:**

* Gerald MacPherson
* Councillor Cathy Maxwell
* Spencer Laing
* Yuning Pan (online)
* Deputy Mayor Cate Savage
* Laurel Taylor

**Staff:**

* Jennifer West
* Rachel Bedingfield
* Dan Troke

# REGRETS:

Bernie Zinck

# APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Meeting is called to order at 9:42 a.m.

# APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**The agenda for the Committee meeting of April 8, 2022 is approved by consensus.**

# APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

**The minutes for the Committee meeting of March 11, 2022 are approved by consensus.**

1. **TOWN HALL UPDATE**
   * + The Town is not eligible for the grant that we were looking to apply for. The information for that grant is still being used toward a planning and design project.
     + Staff are working on accessibility in all buildings.
     + The Internal Operating Committee is working on accessibility every two months, and active transportation every other month.
     + The public forum was not fully accessible. Future meetings need to be accessible.
     + Town Hall hiring practices have additional information and resources around accessibility.
     + Damage to Miners Marsh has made it less accessible. Staff are aware and are working on this.
     + Discussion about accessible parking in downtown.
     + Discussion about the bridge- accessibility, physical safety and mental health issues. Ideas include contrasting paint, lighting, bollards.
     + Discussion about attempted suicides on the bridge.
     + ACTION – Spencer to complete a letter to the John Lohr and the province about bridge issues.
     + Discussion about Kings transit and improvements to public transit.
     + Discussion about land acknowledgements and incorporating Black Nova Scotians.
2. **TASK TEAM UPDATE**
   * + Review of the March 18th meeting.
     + Discussion about cost to business owners for street name changes.
     + Task team will develop a draft policy specifically for street naming next week.
     + Discussion about including parks and facilities into this policy, as an additional recommendation for Council to consider.
3. **RECREATION FOR ALL POLICY, RACHEL BEDINGFIELD**
   * + Review of policy
     + Discussion about a task team for recreation.
     + There are grants and supports for recreation that is “measurable” (e.g. sports) and support for hard-to-measure recreation (e.g. mental health, happiness) is more difficult to obtain.
     + ACTION – Rachel will update the Recreation for All Policy and bring it to the May CAC meeting.
     + ACTION – Rachel and Jennifer to develop a task team for recreation.
4. **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**
   * + Discussion about
     + Could a representative from the queer community be appropriate to satisfy the provincial membership requirements?
     + Can members of the task team be included in this requirement?
     + It may be inappropriate or unethical to force members to self-identify their disability.
     + The purpose of this requirement is to have “the right people at the table”.
     + ACTION – Jennifer and Rachel to discuss evaluation matrices for the accessibility committee and this work.
     + Suggestion that the committee meetings have an evening meeting every few months to make the group accessible to others.
     + ACTION – Jennifer and Rachel to discuss public meetings about accessibility.
     + Members of this committee do not represent a single characteristic like disability.
5. **NEXT STEPS (NEXT AGENDA)**
6. Michael Getchell, Kings Transit, to discuss transit.

Upcoming meetings:

* + - Kirsten Duncan to come talk about Universal Design
    - Mary Sweatman or Laura Fischer to talk to the committee
    - Addendum to Accessibility Plan, peer-reviewed matrix
    - Next meetings, set up dates for May to July. Continue with monthly. Reassess frequency in July.

# ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

Next meeting is on May 13th, 2022 at 9:30am.

Next meetings on June 10th, July 8th and September 12th.