

ATTENDING

- Chair, Councillor Jennifer Ingham
- Deputy Mayor Wendy Elliott
- Birgit Ellsner
- Alex Leblanc
- Ramona Jennex
- Ian Brunton
- Meghan Swanburg
- Barb Shaw, Manager of Communications & Strategic Initiatives
- Laura Morrison, Recording Secretary

REGRETS:

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Councillor Jen Ingham called the meeting to order at 4:32pm.

1. Approval of Agenda	MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED
2. Approval of the Minutes	MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 12, 2024, ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE BE APPROVED. CARRIED
3. Public Input	No public input
4. Comments from the Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NS Walks Day: Wednesday May 8th is NS Walks Day. Time to be confirmed. Everyone is invited to come along, join in and spread the word. Dr. Beverley

<p>5. Acadia Update</p>	<p>Cassidy meeting with Dr Strang and will share the information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviewing 2022-2025 Accessibility Plan• Looking for faculty, staff, students to join the committee. Terms of Ref not yet created but will invite an ex-officio member from this committee.• Engagement strategies include three accessible foundational workshops. Considering a World café model to promote discussions.• The Town’s Building Official provided a thorough review of accessibility features on renovation projects.• Invitation to staff liaison form this committee to attend activities during AccessAbility week.
<p>6. AccessAbility Event Proposal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Barb presented on the proposal for Access Awareness Week, looking for suggestions and feedback.• Employment activity – ideas to write report to• Therapy dog as a greeter.• Offer different types of guides not only sighted guides.• Shortcuts on the floor – board game style – snakes and ladders if don’t want to go to every station in order.• Tricycle and tandem bikes – looking at options.• Question on support person for summer camps – what would they be doing?• Accessible Kings Transit bus, wheelchair available to demonstrate.• Colouring/Activity kits

<p>7. Accessible Communications – Image descriptions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quiet space at the event.• May 27 or 30 in evening 5pm – 7pm. Set up at 4pm.• Loan kit to borrow or see if we can create one ourselves, pilot at the event. Government grant may be available to purchase. Timing could be a factor though.• Identifying barriers – what to do with the information – good facilitation required – list will come back to this committee to identify priorities for next accessibility plan.• Safety previously identified and is one of the most important things for Council. Four-way stops coming in, rumble strips. Crosswalk painting was raised at last meeting.• Ask to be made of SMILE students to help as friendly facilitators and experts.• Suggestion of Accessibility survey canvas to get feedback.• Students who work with older people might be willing to get involved.• Chair will reach out to WBDC, SMILE and raise with Kings Point to Point Transit once a date has been confirmed and will share with Council.• Question around accessible listings advertisements. Landlords are not business owners through WBDC. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Barb presented on Accessible social media.• Using screen readers doesn't have full functionality with social media, it can read the text box but not interpret links or stories on Instagram.• Using image descriptions on Town's social media – Facebook posts that have a link, the screen reader knows to click the link for more details.
---	--

8. Roundtable	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Posting an image includes a full image description of what is in the image.• Symbols are also described.• L'Arche using.• Meghan will pass to Acadia staff.
9. Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Braille business cards have arrived.• Excitement for the event.• NSFM (Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities) created an Equity and Wellbeing committee – looking for suggestion of agenda items from Council members. Basic Income was suggested.• Alex Leblanc resigned from committee citing personal reasons.
10. Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• May 6th at 4:30pm – Planning of Event• Meeting adjourned at 5:46pm.

**Approved at the May 6, 2024 Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting.
As recorded by Laura Morrison, Town Clerk.**