

ATTENDING

- Chair, Councillor Wendy Elliott
- Deputy Mayor Jennifer Ingham
- Birgit Elssner
- Ramona Jennex
- Meghan Swanburg
- Ian Brunton
- Cairo Hamilton
- CAO, Glenn Horne
- Barb Shaw, Manager of Communications & Strategic Initiatives
- Recording Secretary Laura Morrison

REGRETS:

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Councillor Wendy Elliot called the meeting to order at 4:30pm. Introductions were made.

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 JULY 29, 2024, ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE BE APPROVED. CARRIED <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Birgit will review the Wolfville Blooms site for readability
3. Public Input	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Chair advised she has some input from a member of the community which she will share with staff liaison.

<p>4. Comments from the Chair</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome back from holidays.• Timeline for Accessibility Plan
<p>5. Presentation of Draft Accessibility Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Barb presented on the Plan and deadlines that are required.• Aiming for approval of plan by council by end of March 2025 and published by April 1. Provincially mandated deadline.• Overview of why we are doing this and areas of focus.• High disability rate in Nova Scotia.• Physical environment, pain and neurodiversity can be causes of disability.• Wolfville is a Prescribed Public Sector Body (PPSB) required under provincial legislation to meet certain requirements to identify, remove and prevent barriers. This work is guided through our Accessibility Plan.• Process status.• Public engagement happens on an ongoing basis. As well as surveys and events, every time feedback comes to either council or staff, our team is made aware of any accessibility feedback.• Survey feedback focused on built environment, difficulty navigating sidewalks, accessing public transportation.• Outstanding item: door opener at Rec Centre which is now installed but not connected to our security system yet.• Areas of Focus:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Built Environment – sidewalk condition index tool to help identify priorities. Mapping

	<p>through GIS (Geographic Information System) and Public Works Director are looking at this as part of an Asset Management Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Public Washroom Assessments are currently ongoing.○ Reservoir Park washroom/change station. Structure to incorporate accessible washroom/change and area of shade.○ Transportation – micro transit pilot. Consider awareness with Taxi drivers.○ Communications – wayfinding project in progress. Community Planner working on a report to be shared with this committee.○ ASL at community events○ Employment – Accessibility Foundations Training for Staff.○ Work from Home Policy and Accommodations Policy – Recommendations for Employment Standards are now available.○ Goods & Services – Barrier free program space○ Recreation Centre door opener○ Program descriptions, physical environment, auditory environment○ Electric Scooter Bylaw.○ Discussion on E-bikes which is falling under Active Transportation project, which includes a public education piece on etiquette. <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Next Steps:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Accessibility Directorate took photos of local community which could be used in plan.○ Hard copies will be available of the plan.○ Committee required to recommend the text to council and graphics will be added later.
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<p>6. Roundtable</p> <p>7. Next Meeting</p> <p>8. Adjournment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Pleased with plan and focus.○ Inclusion will cover mental health.○ By consensus Barb will share the draft report prior to the next meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Tour of Flower Cart for after plan is completed.● Ramona can arrange tour for individuals.● Culture change is happening. <ul style="list-style-type: none">● February 10, 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Meeting adjourned at 5:45pm.
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**Approved at the February 10, 2025, Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting.
As recorded by Laura Morrison, Manager of Administration and Town Clerk**