



**AFRICAN DESCENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
DRAFT MINUTES  
March 21, 2024**

**PRESENT:** Chioma Ogbanufe, Chair  
Councillor Lindell Smith  
Darryl Johnson  
Jerry Taylor  
Mapfumo Chidzonga  
Taylah Carver  
Renée Babin  
Missy Searl

**REGRETS:** Andrew Howe, Vice Chair  
Councillor Iona Stoddard

**STAFF:** Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity and Inclusion  
Tamar Brown-Pryor, African Nova Scotian Affairs Advisor  
Russel Brooks, Anti- Black Racism Program Coordinator  
Krista Vining, Team Lead, Legislative Assistants  
Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant

*These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by African Descent Advisory Committee at a future meeting.*

*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).*

*These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by the African Descent Advisory Committee at a future meeting.*

**African Descent Advisory Committee  
Draft Minutes  
March 21, 2024**

*The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. and the Committee adjourned at 7:12 p.m.*

## **1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:03 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.

### **1.1 African Nova Scotian Affirmation**

Russel Brooks, Anti- Black Racism Program Coordinator led the Committee in the African Nova Scotian Affirmation.

## **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 8, 2024**

MOVED by Renée Babin, seconded by Mapfumo Chidzonga

**THAT the minutes of February 8, 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

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Missy Searl

**THAT the agenda be approved as presented.**

**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 – February 8, 2024**

### **6.1 2024/25 Work Plan Discussion - Renée Babin**

The following was before the Committee:

- Presentation dated March 21, 2024

Renée Babin gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

MOVED by Darryl Johnson, seconded by Renée Babin

**THAT the matter be deferred to a special meeting of African Descent Advisory Committee which is to be held before the scheduled April 11, 2024 meeting.**

Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant and Krista Vining, Team Lead, Legislative Assistants responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

**MOTION TO DEFER PUT AND PASSED.**

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

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**7.1 Correspondence - None**

**7.2 Petitions – None**

**7.3 Presentation**

**7.3.1 African Nova Scotian Road to Economic Prosperity**

The following was before the Committee:

- Presentation dated March 21, 2024
- Handout dated March 21, 2024

Carolynn Wright, Halifax Partnership and Trayvone Clayton, Halifax Partnership gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Missy Searl

**THAT the African Descent Advisory Committee recommends the Executive Standing Committee request the Mayor write a letter on behalf of the African Descent Advisory Committee to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing in support of charter changes to move forward the community benefit agreements in historic and recognized African Nova Scotian communities.**

Wright, Krista Vining, Team Lead, Legislative Assistants and Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity and Inclusion responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

**9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

**9.1 STAFF**

**9.1.1 African Heritage Month Lunch & Learns and the Anti-Black Racism Speaker Series**

The following was before the Committee:

- Handout dated March 21, 2024

Tamar Brown-Pryor, African Nova Scotian Affairs Advisor provided an update on the ongoing educational opportunities for HRM employees, ANSAIO open houses and Pop-up events, the annual in-person speaker series and the Anti-Black Racism Training. Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity and Inclusion responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

**10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – April 11, 2024**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Dorothy Maponga  
Legislative Assistant