

**TOWN OF AMHERST
Inclusion Diversity & Equity Committee Meeting
Minutes**

Date: Thursday, June 2, 2022
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: Council Chambers, Town Hall

Members Present Councillor Hal Davidson, Chair
Councillor Lisa Emery
Jolene Gouchie, Citizen Representative
Tammy Gero, Citizen Representative
Holly Martin, Citizen Representative

Members Absent Rochelle Howlett, Citizen Representative
Tammy Drew, Citizen Representative

Staff Present Kim Jones, Director of Corporate Communications and
Community Well Being / Municipal Clerk
Sharon Bristol, Community Well-Being Manager
Natalie LeBlanc, Deputy Clerk

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order.

1.1 Approval of Agenda

Moved By Councillor Emery

Seconded By Tammy Gero

To approve the agenda as amended to include 2.4 Mi'kmaq Flag and 3.3 Ancestral Drive update.

Motion Carried

1.2 Approval of Minutes - April 6, 2022

Moved By Jolene Gouchie

Seconded By Councillor Emery

To approve the minutes of the April 6, 2022 Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Committee as circulated.

Motion Carried

2. Decision Items

2.1 Street Naming Policy

It was noted that suggested street names were missing from the draft revised policy, staff will include these. Councillor Emery suggested that the word equality also be added to the two new sections.

Moved By Jolene Gouchie

Seconded By Councillor Emery

That the Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Committee forward the revised Street Naming Policy to Council for approval.

Motion Carried

2.2 IDE Territorial Acknowledgement

Councillor Emery suggested that the IDE Territorial Acknowledgement as presented be brought to Council to adopt in place of the Territorial Acknowledgement currently being used. Staff will include this in this Committee's monthly report.

Moved By Tammy Gero

Seconded By Jolene Gouchie

That the Territorial Acknowledgement as presented be accepted and used for this Committee.

Motion Carried

2.3 IDE Strategy - Community Engagement

The Committee discussed Community Engagement ideas. Councillor Emery spoke to the Municipality of the County of Kings Strategy and their commitments, and thought the Committee should focus on this as a starting point. Staff to send list.

2.4 Mi'kmaq Flag

Staff advised we are still waiting budget approval to order the flag pole through procurement. The goal is to have the flag pole in place with the flag flying correctly by October 1st for Indigenous Month. This will also give the Committee time to consult and plan for a flag raising ceremony.

3. Information Items

3.1 Plan Amherst Survey

The Committee was encouraged to take the Plan Amherst Survey. Staff to send link to members.

3.2 Accessibility Advisory Committee Update

Staff gave an update on the Accessibility Advisory Committee, and the survey they have recently released. Jolene will send Sharon contact information for residential group homes to ensure they have participated in the survey.

3.3 Ancestral Drive Update

The Chair advised the Committee that Council passed a motion at their May meeting to change the name of Lord Amherst Drive to Ancestral Drive as recommended by this Committee. He further thanked members for their work on this.

4. Upcoming Events

4.1 Indigenous Day and Celebrations

The Clerk advised that the Town will have a flag raising ceremony on June 21st, she will send an invitation to Committee members.

4.2 Pride Week

The Community Well Being Manager reported that Pride Week is June 13th to 19th. The Town already has banners up, and will be having a flag rising ceremony on June 13th at 4:00 p.m. She added the Pride Committee also has other events planned for this week, including a drag show at Teasers Pub and Eatery on Friday night, June 17th, and a vendor market on Saturday, June 18th, with a parade at 2:00 p.m.

5. Homework

5.1 What do we want to achieve from this Committee and what are the next steps?

Since Committees do not have regular meetings in July and August, members were asked to give some thought to community engagement, what they want to achieve as a Committee and what are the next steps to get there.

Councillor Emery suggested that perhaps a table be set up during Canada Day festivities perhaps with one question for people to answer.

Jolene suggested including something in the What's Up Amherst Newsletter, and/or creating a Community text.

6. Adjournment

There being nothing further Jolene Gouchie motioned to adjourn.

Councillor Hal Davidson
Chair

Kimberlee Jones
Municipal Clerk