

Northumberland Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes

January 9, 2025

10:00 – 11:30 am

Via Zoom

Members present: Christine Bayer, Hope Bergeron, Rae Deschamps, Stephanie Ash, Bobby-Jo Preston (Chair), John Logel (County Councillor), Andrea Nicholson (staff liaison)

Regrets: Bob Robertson, Selena Forsyth (Vice Chair)

Guest: Lorraine Gordon (until end of Q&A period)

Quorum was confirmed and the meeting called to order at 10:07 (after resolving technical issues)

1. Approval of meeting notes from November 14, 2024

Moved by John, seconded by Christine that the meeting notes from November 14, 2024, be approved. **Carried.**

2. Action items and follow-up from November 14, 2024

Action Item 1: Andrea will send electronic meeting invitations to members for the 2025 meetings. **Completed.**

3. Approval of meeting notes from December 19, 2024

Moved by Christine, seconded by Rae that the meeting notes from December 19, 2024, be approved. **Carried.**

4. Action items and follow-up from December 19, 2024

Action item: Andrea will contact all applicants and update them on the selection process. **Completed.**

5. New Business

i Q&A with NAAC membership applicants

Bobby-Jo facilitated a question-and-answer period for NAAC membership applicant Lorraine Gordon and committee members.

Moved by Christine seconded by John that Lorraine Gordon be accepted as a member of the NAAC for the remainder of the term.
Carried.

Action item 1: Andrea will contact Lorraine Gordon to inform her that the NAAC has approved her membership.

ii National Access Ability Week (May 25 – June 1, 2025)

Bobby-Jo reported that Andrea will invite Communications to the next meeting to begin discussing an awareness campaign for this year.

Bobby-Jo reviewed the purpose of the Helping Hands Award. Andrea has prepared the 2025 nomination form for county employees to nominate peers. The 3-week nomination period for Feb 5-26, 2025.

Moved by John, seconded by Christine, that the NAAC present a Helping Hands Award for 2025 with a nomination period of Feb 5 to Feb 26, 2025. **Carried.**

Action item 2: Andrea will announce the nomination period (Feb 5 – 26) and distribute the 2025 Helping Hands Award nomination forms to County employees via internal website and email.

iii Accessibility Coordinator update (Andrea)

- **International Day of Person with Disabilities (IDPD)** - All planned activities were carried out. The NAAC membership recruitment campaign was successful. A lunch and learn presentation for staff from John Draper of Together We Rock we well received and feedback indicated that 100% of attendees felt the presentation reduced the stigma of disability and challenged their assumptions about disabilities.
- **Annual Status Update** – The Annual Status Update Report on the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan is in progress.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was terminated at 10:40am.

Next Meeting: February 13, 2025 at 10:00am via ZOOM