



**COMMUNITY PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 26, 2015**

PRESENT: Councillor Waye Mason, Chair
 Councillor Steve Adams, Vice Chair
 Councillor Steve Craig
 Councillor Jennifer Watts
 Councillor Darren Fisher
 Deputy Mayor Nicoll

STAFF: Mr. Derk Slaunwhite, Solicitor
 Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant
 Mr. Brad Anguish, Acting Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

*The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to the Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee are available online:
<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/SCcped/index.php>*

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 12, 2015

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Fisher that the minutes of February 12, 2015 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

A staff report entitled *Economic Strategy & Halifax Partnership Update Q3 2014 – 2015* was submitted for consideration of being added to the agenda. The Committee agreed that this report would be put on the April 16, 2015 agenda.

At the request of Councillor Watts, the Committee agreed to move the Information report on *Halifax Town Crier Appointment* to the regular agenda to become item 12.1.

At the request of Councillor Adams, the Committee agreed to add the following item to the agenda:

12.2 Tourism/Business Kiosk for Prospect Road

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nicoll that the agenda, as amended be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE

5. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

8.1 Correspondence

8.1.1 Correspondence dated March 11, 2015 from Catherine Woodman, United Way Halifax

The following was before the Committee:

- Correspondence dated March 11, 2015 addressed to Mayor Savage from Catherine Woodman, President & CEO, United Way of Halifax.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Fisher that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee request a staff report to:

- 1. Evaluate the request from the Housing and Homelessness Partnership to make a financial contribution to the Housing First Program for Halifax; and**
- 2. Report to the Audit and Finance Standing Committee with recommendations during its May 2015 meeting.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8.2 Petitions - None

8.3 Presentation

8.3.1 Junior Achievement of Nova Scotia

Ms. Kristin Williams, President and CEO, Junior Achievement of Nova Scotia provided a presentation to the Committee on Junior Achievement. She explained that Junior Achievement provides hands-on experiential learning in the classroom and through extra-curricular activities, and that the programs focus on three educational pillars: financial literacy, workplace readiness, and entrepreneurship. In her remarks, Ms. Williams noted that for every \$1 invested into Junior Achievement programs, \$45 is created in economic prosperity.

In concluding her presentation, Ms. Williams thanked the Committee for hearing her presentation. She advised that she has a proposal for the Municipality that she would submit to the Committee at a later date, if the Committee was in agreement. She explained that she would like Halifax to become a program sponsor with their Adopt-a School initiative and this would involve a commitment of \$12,000 annually for the next three school years.

Ms. Williams responded to questions from the Committee.

The Chair thanked Ms. Williams for her presentation and advised that the Committee looked forward to receiving her proposal.

9. REPORTS

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Acquisition of Lands in the Purcell's Cove Backlands

The following was before the Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated February 5, 2015
- Correspondence was submitted from Jerry Lynch, Greg Aikins, Deborah Hall, Reuben Penner, Nathan Brett, Frances Dorsey, and Marla Cranston

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Watts that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend to Regional Council that any process to consider public acquisition of the lands identified in the May 20, 2014 Regional Council Motion be deferred pending completion of Phase 1 of the Greenbelting & Open Space Plan.

Councillor Adams advised that this matter originated at Regional Council, and that this Committee is required to forward it back to Regional Council, therefore, he suggested that the Committee forward it to Regional Council without recommendation. Councillor Adams pointed out that a discussion will be held on the matter at Regional Council in any event, so it would be more effective to simply forward it to Regional Council without recommendation rather than hold a discussion at this Committee and make recommendation; only to have the discussion once again at Regional Council.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Craig that the staff report dated February 5, 2015 regarding Acquisition of Lands in the Purcell's Cove Backlands be referred to Regional Council for discussion and input.

THE MOTION TO REFER WAS PUT AND PASSED.

10. MOTIONS - NONE

11. IN CAMERA - NONE

12. ADDED ITEMS:

12.1 Information report – Halifax Town Crier Appointment

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff information report dated March 6, 2015

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nicoll that the Information report dated March 6, 2015 on Halifax Town Crier Appointment be forwarded to Regional Council for information.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 Councillor Adams – Tourism/Business Kiosk – Prospect Road

Councillor Adams advised that Council has made strides in standardizing and eliminating signage on the Prospect Road, but this will have an impact on some businesses and affect their tourism opportunities. He pointed out that there is a tourism shop at Peggy's Cove, however, any tourists will have by-passed these businesses by the time they reach Peggy's Cove. Councillor Adams explained that he would like staff to report back on if and how a small tourism/business kiosk could be located at the beginning of Prospect Road and he noted that he was not looking for a monetary commitment from the Municipality.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Fisher that staff provide a report on the feasibility of siting a tourism/business kiosk at the beginning of the Prospect Road for the businesses and tourists in and around the Prospect Road area.

A discussion ensued. Councillor Watts pointed out that previously Regional Council made a very deliberate decision to get out of Tourism and she questioned what the staff report would address because the Municipality currently has no role in Tourism.

Councillor Adams clarified that he was not looking for any monetary commitment from the Municipality, and indicated that he was working with a group who have a building, a piece of land, and funds, but the difficulty has been in finding information resources on how to proceed to set up a kiosk. He noted that he has approached Provincial officials and various Provincial departments but has not been able to find guidance on the situation.

Following further discussion, Councillor Adams agreed to amend his motion to provide clarity on what he was seeking for staff to report back on, as follows

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Watts that the motion be amended to request that the staff report provide information resources and funding opportunities with regard to setting up a tourism/business kiosk.

THE AMENDMENT WAS PUT AND PASSED.

The motion as amended now reads:

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Fisher that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee request a staff report outlining the information sources and funding opportunities that are available in regard to developing a tourism/business kiosk.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

- 13. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE**
- 14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – April 16, 2015**
- 15. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds
Legislative Assistant