



**COMMUNITY PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
April 16, 2015**

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

STAFF: Mr. Mike Labrecque, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. David Greener, Solicitor
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

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

The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee are available online:
<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/SCcped/150416cped-agenda.php>

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and recessed at 11:34 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 26, 2015

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Fisher that the minutes of March 26, 2015 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

12.1 Arts Halifax Advisory Committee

12.2 Presentation – Ocean Frontier Institute

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

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

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 26, 2015 from Kristin Williams, President and CEO, Junior Achievement of Nova Scotia, Halifax

The following was before the Committee:

- Correspondence dated March 26, 2015 from Kristin Williams, President & CEO, Junior Achievement of Nova Scotia

The Chair acknowledged receipt of the correspondence.

8.2 Petitions – None

8.3 Presentation

8.3.1 Ocean Frontier Institute

Mr. Matt Hebb, Assistant Vice President, Government Relations, Dalhousie University addressed the Committee and provided a presentation on the Ocean Frontier Institute, a Dalhousie University proposal for the Canada First Research Excellence Fund. He explained that the proposal is for an international institute for ocean research and will be a significant international institutional partnership for ocean science. He noted that they have secured partnerships with four of the best ocean institutes in the world and it is a great way to exchange knowledge and leverage opportunities.

At 10:10 a.m. Councillor Watts entered the meeting.

Mr. Hebb explained that the Canada First Research Excellence Fund was created in 2014 by the Federal Government as a legacy investment to help position Canada's post-secondary institutions among the best in the world for talent and breakthrough discoveries, and to excel globally in research areas that create long-term economic benefits for Canada. He added that grants will be awarded on the basis of scientific merit, strategic relevance to Canada (including the potential for the research area to create long-term economic advantages for Canada), and quality of implementation plan. He advised that the winner of the bid will be announced in July 2015, and that a second competition will take place and results will be announced in the spring of 2016. Mr. Hebb noted that they have requested \$70 million (over 7 years) from the fund and that, if successful, they will receive a \$25 million private donation, which would be the largest private donation to ocean science in Canadian History. With additional contributions, he advised that Dalhousie will have a total of \$143 million in funding for the Institute.

Mr. Hebb responded to questions and was thanked by the Chair for his presentation.

9. REPORTS

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Economic Strategy and Halifax Partnership Update – Q3 2014-2015

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated January 28, 2015.

Mr. Fred Morley, Executive Vice-President and Chief Economist, Halifax Partnership responded to questions.

In response to questions by Councillor Watts in regard to the Provincial Oceans Committee and in regard to the Partnership's work in the area of sustainability, environmental protection and development and economic opportunities in these areas, Mr. Morley explained the Provincial Oceans Committee was created to deal with the Coast Guard Base and its conversion to a centre of innovation. He added that the Partnership is working on promotion of the ocean sector, and that Halifax Partnership has created a website called oceaninnovators.com which profiles the ocean sector in Halifax. Mr. Morley also noted that two videos have been produced that profile the sector for a local audience and international clients as well. He advised that the Partnership hasn't pushed into the sustainability area yet, though they've had discussions on the economic strategy and sustainability and the opportunities in this sector to grow the Halifax economy.

Councillor Craig referred to the staff report and noted that it was quite lengthy and with the amount of information contained in it, he felt a staff presentation would be appropriate when these updates are brought forward, as it would help facilitate an informed discussion.

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nicoll that future Economic Strategy & Halifax Partnership Quarterly Updates to the Committee be accompanied with a staff presentation.

Councillor Adams questioned whether a presentation would be provided at Regional Council when the report is forwarded on to Council. In response, the Chair noted that the staff report is provided to Council as an information report and that, perhaps, staff could include the presentation as an attachment to the report.

Councillor Craig suggested that at the next quarterly update, CP & ED could extend an invitation to members of Council to attend the meeting hear the presentation.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Watts that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee receive this report and forward to Regional Council for information.

Deputy Mayor Nicoll questioned if staff were considering developing an alignment with the Nova Scotia Business Initiative (NSBI). Mr. Morley responded that they have staff-to-staff interaction on projects with NSBI and that the Partnership has a strong relationship with the association.

Councillor Watts expressed her appreciation to the Halifax Partnership in the work it was doing with newcomers, immigrants, the African Nova Scotian Community, and in strengthening their work with First Nations communities and in recognizing the resources and opportunities in these sectors.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.1.2 Case 18166: Developing a New Telecommunication Tower Protocol

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated March 3, 2015.

Mr. Carl Purvis, Major Projects Planner presented the staff report which outlined an approach for a new telecommunications application protocol before consulting with stakeholders and preparing a detailed protocol. He provided background information on telecom towers within HRM and highlighted four administrative options for a new Telecom Tower protocol. He advised that staff were recommending that HRM's new Telecom Tower Protocol should be based upon a delegated authority model where Council approves the standards and staff carries out administration of the same. He noted that with this option, Community Councils would not be required to make recommendations to Industry Canada.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Watts that the Community Planning and Economic Standing Committee recommend Regional Council direct staff to:

1. Consult with industry stakeholders on Option 2, as outlined in the March 3, 2015 staff report for a new telecommunications tower application process for HRM; and
2. Develop a new HRM telecommunications tower protocol based on Option 2 as outlined in the March 3, 2015 staff report and the FCM/CWTA "Antenna System Siting Protocol Template"

Mr. Purvis responded to questions.

Committee members spoke in support of the recommendation and expressed appreciation to staff for the work carried out on this matter and in the submitted staff report.

MOTION PUT PASSED.

9.3 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE - None

10. MOTIONS - None

11. IN CAMERA

The Committee did not convene in camera, and dealt with this matter in the public session.

11.1 Personnel Matter – Citizen Nomination to the Heritage Advisory Committee

The following was before the Committee:

- A private and confidential report dated April 7, 2015 submitted by the Municipal Clerk.

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nicoll that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee nominate the citizen outlined in the April 7, 2015

private and confidential staff report to the Heritage Advisory Committee to fill an unexpired term to November 30, 2015. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

12. ADDED ITEMS
12.1 Arts Halifax Advisory Committee

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated March 17, 2015.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Watts that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Adopt Administrative Order 2014-019-GOV, "Arts Halifax Advisory Committee Administrative Order" as outlined in Attachment 1 of the March 17, 2015 staff report.**
- 2. Approve the consolidation of the current public art annual operating programs (open projects and artist in residencies) and the associated budget of \$60,000 into the Interim Grants to Professional Arts Organizations Program, subject to the procedural conditions outlined in Administrative Order 2014-007-ADM, "the Administrative Order on Grants to Professional Arts Organizations"; and**
- 3. Approve the approach for remaining Special Arts and Culture Advisory Committee recommendations as outlined in Table 2 of the March 17, 2015 staff report.**

Ms. Denise Schofield, Manager, Program Support Services responded to questions.

Councillor Watts referred to the 'Duties of the Committee' of the proposed Administrative Order attached to the staff report and pointed out that it states the Committee would be liaising with the government of Nova Scotia and with the Government of Canada. She suggested that it would not be appropriate procedure for a committee to be doing this, and rather, any liaising should be done by staff.

In response, Ms. Denise Schofield, explained that, in regard to this section of the proposed Administrative Order, staff were considering this in terms of the Committee liaising with other similar government committees. She added that if it is a concern of the Committee, this section can be removed from the proposed Administrative Order.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Fisher that the motion be amended to delete Section 12 (c) of Attachment 1 of the March 17, 2015 staff report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

THE MOTION, AS AMENDED, WAS PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nicoll that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee request staff provide a report discussing whether the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter* allows Regional Council to delegate to the CAO, by Administrative Order, the ability to provide a grant for the arts providing:

- **the grant is recommended to the CAO by an arts advisory committee;**
- **the recipient of the grant is a non-profit organization or registered Canadian charity organization; and**
- **Regional Council has approved a budget for the grant program."**

Councillor Mason referenced the March 17, 2015 staff report and advised that there was some question as to whether the Charter prohibited the awarding of grants by an arm's-length delegation or whether all grants had to come back to Council for approval. He noted that this motion for a staff report would provide clarity on the matter.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13. NOTICES OF MOTION- None

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – May 21, 2015

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds
Legislative Assistant