



**COMMUNITY PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
July 23, 2015**

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

OTHER COUNCILLORS: Councillor David Hendsbee

STAFF: Mr. Mike Labrecque, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Ms. Karen Brown, Senior 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/AgendaforJuly232015CommunityPlanningandEconomicDevelopmentStandingCommittee-HRM.php>

*The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m., and recessed at 11:35 a.m. The Standing Committee moved into an In Camera session at 11:37 a.m. and reconvened at 11:43 a.m. The Standing Committee adjourned at 11:45 a.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 18, 2015**

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Watts

**That the minutes of June 18, 2015 be approved.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

At the request of Councillor Nicoll, the Committee agreed to bring forward the information report regarding Youth Engagement to the next regular agenda.

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Watts

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

**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 - None**

**8.2 Petitions - None**

**8.3 Presentation**

**8.3.1 DEANS – Hollie Quick, Marketing & Communications Officer**

Ms. Hollie Quick, Marketing and Communications Officer and Ms. Cindy MacKinnon, Managing Director for Destination Eastern & Northumberland Shores (DEANS) provided a presentation to the Committee. In their remarks they advised that DEANS is a provincially recognized regional tourism marketing association for the Eastern and Northumberland Shores of the Province. It covers an area from Cole Harbour to Ecum Secum, and inland to Musquodoboit. They reviewed the Association's funding sources, (which included \$6,400 last year from HRM), the allocation of their funding (a total annual market budget of approximately \$100,000), and this year's major projects. They concluded their presentation with a request for \$6,400 in funding again this year from HRM, and with a five-year service agreement.

Ms. Quick and Ms. MacKinnon responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nicoll

**That the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee request a staff report in regard to HRM entering into a 5-year service agreement with Destination Eastern and Northumberland Shores (DEANS) in regard to providing a yearly contribution of \$6,400.**

Councillor Hendsbee asked that the report consider whether DEANS would be more appropriately aligned with Destination Halifax or with the Municipality. The Deputy Chief Administrative Officer advised this would be background information staff will include in the report.

Deputy Mayor Nicoll concurred adding that she would like the staff report to better identify the partnership and that the terms of reference of Destination Halifax might need to be considered as well. She also suggested that the report identify all stakeholders and explain how they are working toward the visitor experience to Nova Scotia.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**9. REPORTS**

**9.1 STAFF**

**9.1.1 Downtown 'I'm In' Update**

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

- A staff recommendation report dated July 13, 2015.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Fisher

**THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee receive this report and forward it to Regional Council for information.**

Councillor Watts advised that she was pleased with the emphasis on accessibility issues in the report, and that it sends a strong message that the Municipality is progressive.

Councillor Fisher expressed concern that the report did not provide any update regarding the following: oversized board games in Dartmouth, better lighting in Dartmouth, street closures and whether the street closure process is being made easier. He also questioned whether there were plans to have way-finding signs in Dartmouth. Councillor Fisher pointed out that the terms 'urban core' and 'regional centre' are used interchangeably and is confusing. He suggested that, going forward, staff choose one term and be consistent in using only that term.

Councillor Craig made reference to the Africville Park Ramp for boat access in the report, which stated that it had been modified for greater access. He asked Ms. MacDonald to provide him further information on this item by way of an e-mail or telephone call.

Councillor Hendsbee noted that the Metro Park still has signs posted advertising a former radio station (97.9) that had changed two years ago, and suggested that staff remove these outdated signs. Councillor Hendsbee also suggested that staff bring forward the 'Halifax 2020' and 'ABC 123' reports that were prepared approximately 15 years ago. He advised that there would be pertinent information in these reports to augment the Downtown I'm In report.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**9.1.2 Mobile Food Market Pilot Project**

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

- A staff recommendation report dated June 26, 2015.

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Watts

**THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend Council approve the one-time in-kind donation of a Halifax Transit bus to the Mobile Market Project Team coalition of Public Health, Ecology Action Centre and HRM, for use one day per week, for a 21 week mobile market pilot program; and**

**Council direct staff to develop a policy lens through which to assess municipal responses and actions to social support, health and liveability initiatives.**

Committee members expressed unanimous support for this initiative. Councillor Craig noted that he has heard comments that the Municipality was getting involved in a matter which is not under its jurisdiction. He advised that the Municipality does have a part to play in this issue, and that the second part of the motion will help to address the Municipality's role.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**9.2 COMMUNITY DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**9.2.1 Milestone Update Report – Step 1 Centre Plan**

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

- A recommendation report dated June 29, 2015, submitted the Chair of the Community Design Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Fisher

**THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee forward the June 29, 2015 report to Halifax Regional Council for information.**

Mr. Jacob Ritchie, Urban Design Manager provided an overview of the documents included in the report from the Community Design Advisory Committee, i.e. White Paper Packaging Chapter 6: A Backgrounder for the Centre Plan Project, June 1015; and Centre Plan Community engagement Strategy Report of Step 1 – Engage & Define, June 2015.

Mr. Ritchie responded to question.

Councillor Watts addressed the Community Engagement Strategy for the Centre Plan and highlighted the importance of getting the lead staff consultant hired as soon as possible, and ensuring that the public is given adequate notification of public meetings, and the importance of understanding the options of integrating parking.

Councillor Fisher suggested that Canada Lands be included in the list of Stakeholders.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**9.3 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**9.3.1 Councillor Watts – Request for Staff Report – Municipality and Community Land Trust Models**

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

- A 'Request for Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committees' Consideration' form submitted by Councillor Jennifer Watts.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Fisher

**THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee request a staff report on the potential opportunities and barriers to municipal government involvement in Community Land Trust models.**

Speaking to the motion, Councillor Watts advised that there has been substantial work done on Community Land Trust models in the United States and Britain, and there are emerging models in the Canadian context.

In response to a question, Councillor Watts explained that a Community Land Trust is public land that is leased or conveyed to non-profit groups who use the land for mixed use housing. It is a way of keeping land in the public realm and, over time, allows for non-profit organizations to look at residential development. She added that the City of Vancouver has been involved in community land trusts and she would like staff to look into the various models and see if the same could be done in HRM.

Mr. Bob Bjerke, Director Planning and Development addressed the Committee and explained that the impetus for community land trusts is related to affordable housing and he suggested that if the Committee wanted to proceed with the motion, to refer it to the Halifax Housing Partnership for consideration and report back, as this would be in scope with the work the Partnership is doing.

The Chair indicated that if Councillor Watts and the Committee were in agreement, a friendly amendment could be put forward to refer the request to the Halifax Housing Partnership as suggested by staff.

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Watts

**That the motion be amended to refer consideration of the potential opportunities and barriers to municipal government involvement in Community Land Trust models to the Halifax Housing Partnership for consideration and report back in an information report to CPED.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

The motion now reads:

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Fisher

**That the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee refer consideration of the potential opportunities and barriers to municipal government involvement in Community Land Trust models to the Halifax Housing Partnership for consideration and an information report back to the Committee.**

In response to a question on timeline for reporting back, Mr. Bjerke advised that he would have to discuss this with the other members on the Partnership first before he could provide a timeline. He noted that the Partnership was expecting to have its report on affordable housing completed this fall, and there is the possibility it could be provided by the fall. He indicated he would speak with the Partnership about the timeline and advise the Committee.

**MOTION AS AMENDED PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

10. MOTIONS - NONE

11. IN CAMERA

11.1 MINUTES – June 18, 2015

MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Councillor Craig

**THAT the in camera minutes of June 18, 2015 be approved.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

At 11:37 a.m. the Committee convened in camera.

At 11:44 a.m. the Committee reconvened in public to ratify the following motion.

11.2 PERSONNEL MATTER

11.2.1 Citizen Appointment to the Heritage Advisory Committee

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Craig

**THAT the Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council nominate one citizen to the Heritage Advisory Committee to fill an unexpired term to November 20, 2016 and two (2) alternates to fill vacancies should they occur, as approved in the in camera session.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

12. ADDED ITEMS - NONE

13. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – September 17, 2015

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds  
Legislative Assistant