



COMMUNITY PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
November 19, 2015

PRESENT: Councillor Waye Mason, Chair  
Councillor Steve Adams, Vice Chair  
Councillor Jennifer Watts  
Councillor Lorelei Nicoll  
Councillor Steve Craig

STAFF: Mr. Mike Labrecque, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Mr. Derk Slaunwhite, 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 the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee are available online:  
<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/SCcped/index.php>

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Watts

**That the minutes of October 15, 2015 be approved.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

The Legislative Assistant noted that Attachment B to the staff report in regard to 9.1.4 had inadvertently been left out of the report. She advised that it had been distributed to the members on their desks.

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Craig

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

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE**

**5. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE**

**6. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION**

**6.1 Councillor Mason – That the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee approve withdrawing the motion from February 13, 2014:**

“The Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee request a presentation by the manager responsible for HRM Parks regarding short and long term issues in HRM parks, such as off leash dog concerns, maintenance, and programming and planning for parks.”

Councillor Mason stepped down from the Chair in order to address this item. Councillor Nicoll assumed the Chair.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Craig

**That the Community Planning and Economic Development rescind the following motion from February 13, 2014:**

**“The Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee request a presentation by the manager responsible for HRM Parks regarding short and long term issues in HRM parks, such as off leash dog concerns, maintenance, and programming and planning for parks.”**

Councillor Mason explained that he was requesting the motion be rescinded because the staffing hierarchy has been clarified with respect to HRM’s parks, and he was comfortable that the manager for Parks would be able to address the Committee in due course.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**

**8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**8.1 Correspondence: None**

**8.2 Petitions: None**

**8.3 Presentations:**

8.3.1 Amy Melmock – Neptune Theatre – 2016 Renovation Campaign

The following was before the Committee:

- A submission entitled, *A Proposal for Halifax Regional Municipality, Neptune Renovations 2016*.
- A Power Point Presentation

Ms. Amy Melmock, General Manager, Neptune Theatre Foundation provided a presentation. Her presentation focussed on the renovation project the Theatre has planned for the summer of 2016. She advised that the estimated project cost is \$3.6 million and that they have secured \$1.1 million from private and corporate contributions; \$1.1 million in additional corporate support is pending, and that \$1 million in support has been requested from the federal and provincial governments. Ms. Melmock also advised that Neptune will contribute to the campaign annually through its capital fund and that community participation will be encouraged through social media and seat campaigns. She indicated that the Theatre will be requesting from the Municipality a contribution of \$100,000 in April of 2016.

Ms. Melmock responded to questions.

The Chair suggested Ms. Melmock forward the Theatre's request via correspondence and the Committee would then consider forwarding it to staff.

**9. REPORTS**

**9.1 STAFF:**

**9.1.1 Youth Engagement Report – Update**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff information report dated November 9, 2015
- A staff information report dated July 15, 2015.
- A Power Point Presentation

Mr. Lee Moore, Community Developer, Parks and Recreation presented an update on youth engagement with regard to trends, issues, best practices, and actions staff has taken with respect to youth programming, as outlined in the submitted information reports.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Nicoll that

**That the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee forward the information report to Council.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.1.2 Renewal of Economic Strategy – Update**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff report dated November 6, 2015.

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Nicoll that

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

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**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.1.3 Support for Destination Eastern and Northumberland Shores (DEANS)**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated November 6, 2015.

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Watts

**That the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend to Regional Council that:**

1. **A grant of \$6,400 per year, renewable annually for up to five years, be paid to Destination Eastern and Northumberland Shores (DEANS) beginning in the 2015-2016 fiscal year and continuing through the 2020 – 2021 fiscal year.**
2. **the grant be paid through Destination Halifax; and**
3. **Destination Halifax and DEANS sign an agreement on how the grant gets spent and reported on.**

Councillor Watts, in referring to the report, noted that it states the tourism sector is undergoing change and a new tourism strategy was being developed. She added that once the strategy was completed it would be helpful for staff to provide a presentation to the Committee on the future direction of tourism and the impact and opportunities for HRM as a result.

In response to a question of clarification, Ms. Maggie MacDonald, Managing Director, Government Relations and External Affairs explained that with regard to recommendation 1, i.e. a grant of \$6,400 per year, renewable annually for up to five years, would be at Council's discretion to renew on an annual basis.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Councillor Adams entered the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

**9.1.4 Development Proposals at Birch Cove, Bedford Waterfront and Paper Mill Lake**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated November 5, 2015.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

**That Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend to Regional Council that further public engagement and preparation of plan amendments for the Birch Cove, Bedford Waterfront, and Paper Mill Lake lands be deferred until Council has reviewed the various transportation plans and a course of action agreed upon.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.1.5 Canada's Diversity Advantage Project – United Nations Association in Canada**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated November 5, 2015.

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Watts

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**That Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend Regional Council request Mayor Savage send a letter of support to Sarah Kambites, Director of Education and Community Initiatives of the UNA-Canada, indicating the Municipality's willingness to serve as a Regional Partner for Canada's Diversity Advantage in Halifax.**

Councillor Watts noted that she hoped there would also be a connection with First Nations with this initiative.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.1.6 Off Leash Parks Strategy Review**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated November 9, 2015
- A Power Point Presentation

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

**The Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:**

- 1. Establish the Off-Leash Park Program as a permanent service to be considered as part of annual HRM business planning and budgeting process.**
- 2. Direct staff to develop an Off-Leash Dog Parks Administrative Order (AO) that will replace the Off- Leash Dog Parks Strategy 2007 by establishing policy objectives, service level requirement, and minimum criteria and procedures for the provision of off-leash facilities based on the Off-Leash Dog Parks Strategy 2007 with the changes and actions outlined in Attachment 1.**

Mr. Peter Bigelow, Manager, Policy and Planning, Parks and Recreation provided a presentation of the Off-Leash Parks Strategy, as outlined in the submitted staff report. Mr. Bigelow responded to questions of clarification.

Councillor Watts noted that many residents are looking for clarity around this issue and she advised that as HRM provides clarity, it may result in confusion among the public. She emphasized the importance of HRM's clear communication on the Strategy and ensuring consistency in the message. Councillor Watts also noted that, with this being a statistics-based strategy, it will work best for those dogs that are licensed. She added that the Strategy may encourage more dog owners to license their pets because, to some extent, the licensing of dogs will drive service delivery.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

9.2.1 Councillor Nicoll – Immigration Partnerships

The following was before the Committee:

- *A Request for Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee Consideration* form, submitted by Councillor Nicoll.

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Watts

**That the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend a staff recommendation report to examine how partnerships between key stakeholders are meeting their objectives in integrating and retaining newcomers.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**10. MOTIONS: NONE**

The Committee adjourned to an In Camera session at 10:30 a.m.

The Committee reconvened at 10:41 a.m.

**11. IN CAMERA:**

**11.1 Personnel Matter:**

**11.1.1 Citizen Appointments to the Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Advisory Committee**

This matter was dealt with in camera, and the Committee ratified the in camera motion as follows:

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Craig

**That the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee nominate one member of the public and one member from the local business community to fill vacancies on the Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Advisory Committee for consideration by Regional Council, as approved in the in camera session held on this date.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**11.1.2 Citizen Appointments to the Heritage Advisory Committee**

This matter was dealt with in camera, and the Committee ratified the in camera motion as follows:

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Craig

**That the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee nominate six citizens to fill vacancies on the Heritage Advisory Committee for consideration by Regional Council, as approved in the in camera session held on this date.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**11.1.3 Councillor Nominations to Halifax Partnership**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A private and confidential staff recommendation report dated November 9, 2015.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Adams

**That the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee nominate the two Councillors to the Board of Halifax Partnership for consideration of Regional Council for a term to October 31, 2016, as outlined in the private and confidential staff recommendation report dated November 9, 2015.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**11.1.4 Councillor Nominations to Destination Marketing**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A private and confidential staff recommendation report dated November 9, 2015.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Adams

That the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee nominate the Councillor to the Board of Destination Halifax for consideration of Regional Council for a term to October 31, 2016, as outlined in the private and confidential staff recommendation report dated November 9, 2015.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12. ADDED ITEMS - NONE**

**13. NOTICES OF MOTION- NONE**

**14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Standing Committee agreed to meet next on December 10, 2015; however, subsequent to this meeting it was determined that this date conflicted with a meeting of the Transportation Standing Committee. Therefore, the Committee's meeting was scheduled for its regular meeting date of December 17, 2015.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds  
Legislative Assistant