



**Grants Committee
MINUTES
June 1, 2015**

PRESENT: Councillor Barry Dalrymple, Chair
Councillor Russell Walker, Vice Chair
Councillor David Hendsbee
Mr. Donald Dodge
Ms. Linda MacKay
Ms. Sara Colburne
Ms. Janice Kenney
Mr. John Falkenham
Ms. Ratnam Mohan

STAFF: Ms. Denise Schofield, Manager, Program Support Services, Parks & Recreation
Ms. Elizabeth Taylor, Manager, Culture & Events
Mr. Jamie MacLellan, Community Developer, Culture & Events
Ms. Peta Jane Temple, Team Lead, Tax, Grants & Incentives
Mr. Peter Greechan, Community Developer, Grants & Contributions
Ms. Patricia Hughes, Supervisor, Service Design & Projects, Halifax Transit
Ms. Jennifer Weagle, 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 Grants Committee are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/bccgrants/Grantsagenda150601.php>

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m., and the Committee adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. in meeting room Duke 1, 3rd floor, Duke Tower, 5251 Duke Street, Halifax

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 4, 2015

Councillor Walker noted that the Chair and Vice Chair positions on the first page of the May 4, 2015 minutes should be switched.

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee, that the Grants Committee minutes of May 4, 2015, be approved as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- 8.1 Correspondence from Wendy MacDonald, Halifax North West Trails, dated June 1, 2015

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee, that the order of business be approved as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS - NONE

7. REPORTS

7.1 STAFF

7.1.1 Rural Transit Funding Program 2015/16 Recommended Awards

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated April 29, 2015

Ms. Patricia Hughes, Supervisor, Service Design & Projects, Halifax Transit, reviewed the April 29, 2015 staff report with the Committee. She explained that the program provides grants to approved community based transit agencies at a flat rate of \$0.50/km for every vehicle kilometer logged in-service within the Municipality, limited by budget availability from year to year. Ms. Hughes further explained that the program also provides either \$5,000 or \$10,000 lump sum payments for additional support per year to approved community based transit agencies depending on their level of service.

Ms. Hughes indicated that there were two funding requests received for the 2015/16 Rural Transit Funding Program:

- BayRides for the annual \$10,000 lump sum payment, plus approximately \$12,500, based on projected in-service kilometres for a total of \$22,500; and
- Musgo Rider for the annual \$10,000 lump sum payment, plus approximately \$65,000, based on projected in-service kilometres, for a total of \$75,000.

Ms. Hughes responded to questions about the Rural Transit Funding Program and individual requests for funding. She clarified that the total budget for the 2015/2016 Rural Transit Funding Program identified as \$80,000 in the April 29, 2015 staff report was incorrect, and that the total budget is actually \$100,000,

which is sufficient to provide the funding requested from both BayRides and Musgo Rider.

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by John Falkenham, that the Grants Committee recommend that Regional Council approve the funding applications submitted by BayRides and Musgo Rider under Administrative Order Number 2014-012-ADM Respecting Grants for Rural Transit based on a budget of a maximum total of \$100,000.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7.1.2 Interim Professional Arts Organizations Grant Program 2015/16 Recommended Awards

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff recommendation/information report dated May 13, 2015
- Revised Attachment 3 to the May 13, 2015 staff report.

Mr. Jamie MacLellan, Community Developer, Culture & Events, reviewed the May 13, 2015 staff report outlining the 2015-16 recommended awards for the Interim Professional Arts Organizations Grant Program. The program is divided into two (2) funding categories:

1. Operating Assistance to Professional Arts Organizations which supports the regular operations of those organizations; and
2. Project Assistance to Professional Arts Organizations which allocates funding to stand-alone, non-recurrent arts initiatives.

Mr. MacLellan clarified that Attachment 3 “Applications Not Recommended for Funding in 2015-2016” of the May 13, 2015 staff report had omitted in error four (4) applications that were not recommended for funding. These applications were from Kazan Co-op Theatre, Saint Cecelia Concert Series, Women in Film & Television – Atlantic, and Vocalypse Production Society. A revised Attachment 3 to the May 13, 2015 staff report was circulated to the Committee. Mr. MacLellan further clarified that the omission of these four applications did not alter the staff recommendation, nor the recommendation put forward by the Grants Committee, as these were applications *not* recommended for funding.

MOVED by Linda MacKay, seconded by Councillor Walker, that the Grants Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve:

1. **20 awards for operating assistance at a combined value of \$265,500 as detailed in Attachment 2 from operating account C760-8004-Interim Professional Arts Organization Grant Program; and**
2. **15 awards for project assistance at a combined value of \$94,500 as detailed in Attachment 2 from operating account C760-8004-Interim Professional Arts Organization Grant Program.**

Staff responded to questions regarding individual applications and recommended awards. They discussed the application process, noting that if an organization is declined, staff offer direction for the next application period.

At the request of the Committee, Ms. Denise Schofield, Manager, Program Support Services, Parks & Recreation, discussed the Arts Halifax Committee, noting that it will be a staff advisory committee, employing a peer jury process, before applications are brought to the Grants Committee. She noted that the details of the committee structure have not been finalized.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7.1.3 Bay Road Community Hall Association – request for additional grant extension

The following was before the Committee:

- Correspondence from the Bay Road Community Hall Association dated May 25, 2015

Mr. Peter Greechan, Community Developer, Grants & Contributions, reviewed the May 25, 2015 letter from the Bay Road Community Hall Association, which requested a second extension of a \$5,000 grant award to assist with the cost of conveyance of land and building. Mr. Greechan provided some background, noting that the fire hall on the property became obsolete after a structure fire in the premises. He advised that the Association wishes to maintain the facility for community use, and Council approved a redirection of the lease on the property, which runs until 2016. Mr. Greechan advised that the volunteers involved with the Association have been working diligently with the province and the municipality to complete the land transfer.

Mr. Greechan responded to questions from the Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Janice Kenney, that the Grants Committee approve an additional extension of the \$5,000 grant to the Bay Road Community Hall Association. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Correspondence from Wendy MacDonald, Halifax North West Trails, dated June 1, 2015

The following was before the Committee:

- Correspondence from Wendy MacDonald, Board Member, Halifax North West Trails, dated June 1, 2015

Mr. Greechan reviewed the June 1, 2015 email from the Halifax North West Trails Association, which requested a review of their Community Grants application. Mr. Greechan explained that the application was not recommended by staff for a number of reasons, but primarily because the property referred to is owned by the Department of National Defense and leased by Maskwa Aquatic Club. He clarified that there is no opportunity for an appeal of a grant refusal, though the application can be referred back to staff for reconsideration.

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee, that the 2015-2016 Community Grants Program application from the Halifax North West Trails Association be referred back to staff for reconsideration.

The Committee discussed the request for reconsideration.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING – September 14, 2015, 1:00 p.m., Media Room, 1st floor, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax**

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

Jennifer Weagle
Legislative Assistant