



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
July 14, 2014**

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Mike Moreash, Chair  
Commissioner Phil Read, Vice-Chair  
Commissioner Fred Honsberger  
Commissioner Barry Dalrymple  
Commissioner Tim Outhit

**REGRETS:** Commissioner Linda Mosher

**STAFF:** Chief Jean Michel Blais, HRP  
Deputy Chief Bill Moore, HRP  
Chief Superintendent Roland Wells, RCMP  
Ms. Ashley Dutcher, Solicitor  
Mr. Liam MacSween, 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 Board of Police Commissioners are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/bpc/140714bopc-agenda.php>*

*The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m., the Committee moved into an In Camera session at 1:40p.m.and reconvened at 1:47 p.m. the Committee adjourned at 1:48 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. in Halifax Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 23, 2014**

**MOVED by Commissioner Honsberger, seconded by Commissioner Dalrymple that the minutes be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Additions:

Item No. 8.1 - In Camera – Personnel Matter.

**MOVED by Commissioner Dalrymple, seconded by Commissioner Read that the agenda be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

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

**6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**6.1 Correspondence – None**

**6.2 Petitions - None**

**6.3 Presentation - None**

**7. REPORTS**

**7.1 STAFF**

**7.1.1 HRP Reports**

The following was before the Board:

- *The HRP reports dated June 2014*

Chief Blais noted that the line item which reads Haiti Assignment should read International Assignment. He noted that the HRP reports are as submitted.

Commissioner Outhit commended Sgt. Reynolds, Constable Winters and their colleagues for a job well done respecting the management of traffic. He noted that the team is very receptive to suggestions and conduct themselves in a very professional manner.

**The HRP reports were received by the Board as submitted.**

**7.1.2 RCMP Dashboard Report**

The following was before the Board:

- *The RCMP Dashboard report dated July 14, 2014*

Chief Superintendent Wells provided an overview of the RCMP Dashboard reports and noted that public awareness with respect to pedestrian collisions is having a positive impact for both police agencies in HRM.

Commissioner Outhit noted good feedback from residence regarding zebra stripes and inquired about feedback that may have been received by the RCMP or HRP.

C/Supt Wells stated that the RCMP has not received any specific feedback and stated reiterated an earlier point about the benefits of public awareness.

Deputy Chief Moore commented that the relationship between policing and traffic services is much stronger than it has been in the past. He commented that HRP is sending out teams to identify issues with respect to pedestrian safety and is actively working on traffic safety initiatives.

C/Supt Wells commented that RCMP is currently reviewing the manner in which pedestrian collisions are reported to obtain a better understanding of causation.

Further discussion ensued.

**The RCMP Dashboard Report was received by the Board as submitted.**

**7.1.3 RCMP Reports**

The following was before the Board:

- *The RCMP Reports dated June 2014*

**The RCMP Reports were received by the Board as submitted.**

**7.1.4 Public Safety Office**

Staff Sargent Scott R. MacDonald provided background information with respect to the HRM Public Safety Office. He noted that the Spryfield Community Office has been reopened and the signage on the front of the building has been repainted. He further commented that it has been a busy week for Ceasefire HRM and noted that trained staff are beginning their work within the community.

S/Sgt MacDonald noted the attendance of Ms. Sharon Martin, Program Manager, Community & Recreation Services to provide an update on the Youth Advocate Program.

Commissioner Dalrymple inquired if there is a large volunteer commitment for the Ceasefire program

S/Sgt MacDonald commented that work in the Ceasefire Program is a paid commitment. He noted, however, that there are a number of community volunteers that will be conducting follow up work.

**7.1.5 Youth Advocate Program Update**

The following was before the Board:

- *An Information Briefing Note dated July 14, 2014*

Ms. Sharon Martin, Program Manager, Community & Recreation Services provided an update with respect to the Youth Advocate Program.

Commissioner Read requested further information with respect to the financial oversight of the program.

Deputy Chief Moore commented that the Youth Advocate Program is funded through HRP's budget and is administered by Community and Recreation Services and is subject to the normal budgetary process.

Commissioner Moreash commented that he would like to see more frequent reporting on the Youth Advocate Program on a shorter term basis so that the Board can provide oversight.

Commissioner Honsberger inquired about the relationship between Public Safety Office and the Youth Advocate Program.

S/Sgt MacDonald stated that the major connection between the Public Safety Office and the Youth Advocate Program is crime prevention. He noted that there is quite a bit of interaction between CRS and the Public Safety Office with respect to the program.

Commissioner Read stated that it is very important the Board remains informed of the Youth Advocate Program and suggested that a report be provided to the Board on a quarterly basis.

Commissioner Honsberger requested further information respecting the oversight responsibility of the program by the Board. He further inquired if there is an administrative requirement for the Board.

Chief Blais stated that the Board of Police Commissioners oversight of the Youth Advocate Program would involve high level policy input particularly as it pertains to public safety and crime prevention. He noted that the oversight structure could be subject to change given the upcoming migration of the Public Safety Office to HRM administration.

**MOVED by Commissioner Dalrymple, seconded by Commissioner Outhit that the Board of Police Commissioners receive updated reports with respect to the Youth Advocate Program on every four months.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Commissioner Dalrymple commented that there is very good support from other levels of Government with respect to the Youth Advocate Program and that it is likely attributable to the overall reduction of crime rate in HRM.

The Chair thanked Ms. Martin and S/Sgt Reynolds on behalf of the Board for their input on this manner.

**7.1.6 CAPG Conference Update**

Commissioner Read commented that he has been in contact with Commissioner Mosher and the Canadian Association of Police Governance administration. He commented that there has been a great deal of work to undertaken to ensure that the conference is on track and that all matters relating to the event are progressing nicely.

Chief Superintendent Wells left the meeting at 1:02 p.m.

**7.1.7 Board of Police Commissioners Draft 2014-2015 Project Work Plan**

The following was before the Board:

- *A draft project work plan document report dated July 7, 2014*

Commissioner Honsberger gave an overview of the 2014-2015 Draft Work Plan document. He commented that the documents is essentially a "to do" list and calendar of events for the Board for 2014-15. He commented that he has had further discussions with Chief Blais, C/Supt Wells and the Chief Administrative Officer all of whom assisted in formulation of the document.

Councillor Dalrymple commented that it is refreshing to see a plan and a document which provides clear objectives for the Board.

Ms. Kathleen Patterson, Business Initiatives Coordinator, Halifax Regional Police suggested that Board of Police Commissioners also include input for the Police Citizen Satisfaction survey as part of the Draft 2014-2015 Work Plan.

**MOVED by Commissioner Read, seconded by Commissioner Dalrymple that the Draft 2014-2015 Project Work Plan be approved.**

The Chair stated that Commissioner Honsberger will also be formulating an Orientation document for Commissioners. The Chair thanked Commissioner Honsberger for his work on this matter.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**7.1.8 Nova Scotia Chiefs & Nova Scotia Police Boards Fall Conference**

The Chair urged interested Board members to register as soon as possible for this upcoming conference. He stated that he is not sure how many Commissioners will be able to attend as conference attendance is subject to available budget resources allocated to travel.

Commissioner Honsberger commented that the Board should have a good presence at this conference if it is financially feasible to do so. He commented that there is much to be learned from other Commissions

Commissioner Read commented that he believes there is an allowance for one Board member to attend the conference this year. He stated that much of the Board's resources usually committed to travel and conferences have been dedicated to the upcoming CAPG conference.

Commissioner Dalrymple commented that he would inquire about travel funds for Board Members who are also Member of Regional Council which could potentially offset the cost to the Board.

**7.1.9 HRM Citizen Satisfaction Survey**

Commissioner Read commented that he is glad to see that consistent questions were included within the new survey and that it is very well structured. He further stated that he hopes that the survey is not too voluminous for people to complete.

The Chair commented that he is pleased to see pedestrian safety questions incorporated within the survey.

Ms. Kathleen Patterson, Business Initiative Coordinator, stated that any questions or suggestions from the Board relating to public safety questions for the Citizen Satisfaction Survey would be appreciated. She noted that Board members can easily contact her with suggestions.

Further discussion ensued, with the Board thanking staff for their work on the survey.

**7.2 COMMISSIONER UPDATES**

**7.2.1 Updates**

Commissioner Dalrymple commented that he was approached by Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities members and some HRM Councillors to join a group lead by the Department of Justice on provincial policing issues. He noted that he attended the first meeting several months ago with a number of other municipal counterparts to discuss justice issues across the province. He noted that it was a very informative meeting and is looking forward to the next one. He commented that he will continue to update the Board on its progress.

Commissioner Outhit inquired if there has been anything new to report as to how successful the reduced speed limit in school zones has been.

Deputy Chief Moore stated that there has been some anecdotal evidence that the new speed limits in school zones have decreased speeding in those areas. He noted that monitoring of those areas and enforcement to change driver behaviour has taken place but that it is difficult to enforce given the provision that children must be present for the reduced speed limit to take effect. He further noted that signage which posts motor vehicle speed close to the harbour bridges in Halifax and Dartmouth has had a positive impact on speeding and technology such as that may be beneficial in school zones.

Commissioner Outhit expressed his concern with the reduced speeds for school zones in that it is hard to enforce

Chief Blais commented that discussion on this matter should be brought up at the upcoming Nova Scotia Police Chiefs and Boards conference.

Chief Blais took the opportunity to introduce Mr. Jordan Penney, Policy Analyst Intern with the Halifax Regional Police. He stated that Mr. Penney will be working at HRP over for the next 18 months as part of the internship program. Chief Blais noted that Mr. Penny has a strong background in Public Administration and holds a Doctorate in History.

The Chair welcomed Mr. Penney on behalf of the Board of Police Commissioners.

**MOVED by Commissioner Read, seconded by Commissioner Outhit that the Board of Police Commissioners convene to In Camera to discuss a personnel matter. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**8. ADDED ITEMS**

**8.1 In Camera – Personnel Matter**

The Board of Police Commissioners moved to In Camera at 1:40 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter. The Board reconvened to public session at 1:47 p.m. No further action was taken.

**9. IN CAMERA**

*The Board of Police Commissioners may rise and go into a private In Camera session, in accordance with Section 51 of the Nova Scotia Police Act for the purpose of dealing with the following;*

**9.1.1 Approval of In Camera Minutes – June 23, 2014**

The following motion was passed in public session:

**MOVED By Commissioner Read, seconded by Commissioner Dalrymple that the Board of Police Commissioners approve the In Camera minutes of June 23, 2013 as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – August 11, 2014**

**MOVED by Commissioner Read, seconded by Commissioner Dalrymple that the August 11, 2014 meeting be cancelled to accommodate work for upcoming CAPG conference.**

The Board agreed by consensus that an alternative meeting date could be scheduled for August if a meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners is required.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

Liam MacSween  
Legislative Assistant