

CROSSWALK SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES November 27, 2014

PRESENT: Ms. Janet Barlow, Chair

Councillor Darren Fisher
Councillor Waye Mason
Mr. Kelsey Green
Mr. Kyle Miller
Ms. Lucille Reid
Dr. Ashan Habib
Ms. Jill McGillicuddy
Sgt. Steve Calder

Councillor Barry Dalrymple

REGRETS: Ms. Krista Daley

OTHERS PRESENT: Councillor Steve Craig

Councillor Matt Whitman

STAFF: Mr. Roddy MacIntyre, Traffic Services Supervisor, Traffic and Right of Way

Mr. Taso Koutroulakis, Manager, Traffic and Right of Way

Ms. Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant Mr. Darcy Warren, Legislative Support

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

The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee are available online: http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/csac/141127agenda.php

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m., and adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. in Halifax Hall, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

The Chair informed the Committee of the resignation of Ms. Jamy-Ellen Klenavic, Vice Chair.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 18, 2014 & November 6, 2014 (Notes)

MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Councillor Mason that the minutes of September 18, 2014 and the notes of November 6, 2014 be approved, as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- 8.1 Discussion re: Committee Vacancies Janet Barlow
- 8.2 Request to have discussion on "Hands Out" practice Councillor Dalrymple

The Committee agreed to defer Item 5.1 - Discussion re: Draft Recommendations to the Province for Increasing Non-Monetary Penalties for Crosswalk Violations to the next regular meeting in January 2015.

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Ms. Reid that the agenda be approved, as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

- 4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES NONE
- 5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS
- 5.1 Discussion re: Draft Recommendations to the Province for Increasing Non-Monetary Penalties for Crosswalk Violations

This item was deferred until the January 2015 meeting.

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

6.1 Correspondence

The following correspondence was received: Mr. Brad McRae dated September 19, 2014; Dr. Christine Hunt dated November 23, 2014; Mr. John Shimeld dated November 17, 2014; and Ms. Stella Ward dated November 9, 2014.

- 6.2 Petitions NONE
- 6.3 Presentations
- 6.3.1 Crosswalk Enforcement Unit in Halifax Regional Municipality Mr. Norm Collins

The following was before the Committee:

• A copy of Mr. Norm Collins' presentation entitled: A proposal to create a Crosswalk Enforcement Unit in Halifax.

Mr. Norm Collins delivered a presentation to the Committee on his proposal to create a Crosswalk Enforcement Unit in Halifax.

A brief discussion was held with staff advising the Committee that no board or Committee, including Halifax Regional Council, has jurisdiction to direct or request the establishment of a Crosswalk Enforcement Unit. The responsibility for the day to day activities of the police department, including the enforcement of law, lies with the Police Chief as per section 38(5) of the Nova Scotia Police Act.

During the discussion Mr. Collins noted that he has also made a request to present to the Board of Police Commissioners respecting the creation of a Crosswalk Enforcement Unit in Halifax. The Committee invited Mr. Collins to their next meeting to provide an update on his presentation to the Board of Police Commissioners.

The Committee thanked Mr. Collins for his presentation and no further action was taken.

7. REPORTS/DISCUSSIONS

7.1 STAFF

- 7.1.1 Vehicle/Pedestrian Collisions: January to October 2014
 - (i) Halifax Regional Police
 - (ii) Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax District

The following was before the Committee:

- Vehicle/Pedestrian Collisions: Halifax Regional Police statistics from January to October 2014
- Vehicle/Pedestrian Collisions: Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax District statistics from January to October 2014

Sgt. Calder informed the Committee that the Motor Vehicle Act defines five categories of injuries and that many factors are involved in crosswalk accidents such as weather and darkness. He explained that trends are the same as they have been in past years. Sgt. Calder noted that private properties such as mall parking lots are not separated into a separate category. He provided an example of increased accidents happening closer to transit stops.

Dr. Habib added that medical statistics are unavailable due to privacy acts, as they are medical records and the information available to the public is a summary of injuries.

Councillor Dalrymple informed the Committee that a new reporting system was now in place. More information is being received and recorded by police agencies which make it easier to extract data. He also noted that more work is being done to extract data.

Mr. Taso Koutroulakis, Manager, Traffic and Right of Way informed the Committee that the Municipality extracts data from the Right of Way, private properties are hard to address, and that HRM's focus is on the streets. He stated that private properties have no standards. Councillor Fisher questioned if there was something the Committee could do to address this issue. Mr. Koutrolakis responded that members could make suggestions to staff, but that it was up to private owners to agree.

Dr. Habib agreed that private properties are problem areas and questioned whether Regional Council could address these issues when entering into Development Agreements. He suggested that the Committee discuss this issue further.

The Committee agreed to have a discussion regarding crosswalks on private properties and municipal mandate at the next regular meeting.

Ms. Barlow asked whether a comparison of injuries from 2013 to 2014 could be provided to the Committee. Sgt. Calder responded that this would not be possible due to the categories that are reported on by police.

7.2 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

7.2.1 Consideration of Co-hosting a Crosswalk Safety Idea Café with DalTRAC

The following was before the Committee:

- Draft proposal re: Idea Café: Crosswalk Safety
- Copy of DalTRAC's presentation

Dr. Habib presented DalTRAC's draft proposal respecting an Idea Café on Crosswalk Safety. He noted that the Idea Café would be a no cost event, with funding coming from Nova Scotia Moves and topics of discussion would include engineering, enforcement, education and evaluations plans, as well as the Nova Scotia Collision Study. He further noted that HRM staff and the Committee role would be as a 'knowledge dealer' (facilitator).

The Committee passed a motion approving DalTRAC's proposal of co-hoisting a Crosswalk Safety Idea Café in February 2015 with details to be confirmed through future planning with DalTRAC.

MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Councillor Mason that the Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee approve DalTRAC's draft proposal to co-host an Idea Café on Crosswalk Safety, to be held in February 2015, with details to be confirmed through future planning with DalTRAC, with an update to be provided to the Transportation Standing Committee for their information. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7.2.2 Crosswalk Safety Awareness Day held November 5, 2014

Ms. Barlow informed the Committee that the Crosswalk Safety Awareness Day Sub-Committee would be meeting next week for a debriefing and final analysis of the Crosswalk Safety Awareness Day and would report back to the Committee in January 2015.

Councillor Fisher questioned if the Halifax Regional School Board was involved in the Crosswalk Safety Awareness Day. Ms. McGillicuddy responded that there are two schools that have crosswalk captains, and that September was set aside for crosswalk safety. Councillor Fisher suggested having the Halifax Regional School Board participate more in the next Crosswalk Safety Awareness Day. Ms. Barlow informed members that schools were not a target in the Crosswalk Safety Awareness Day. Sgt. Calder expressed an interest in having a police presence in certain areas.

The Committee agreed that the Crosswalk Safety Awareness Day was a success.

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Discussion re: Committee Vacancies – Janet Barlow

Ms. Barlow and staff informed the Committee of the vacancies currently on the Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee. Members who terms expire November 2014 were reminded to submit an application for consideration of reappointment to the Clerk's Office by end of December 2014. Residents interested in sitting on the Committee must also submit an application to the Clerks Office by end of December 2014. It was noted that details regarding applications received to date could not be shared as this information is private and confidential.

8.2 Request to have discussion on "Hands Out" practice – Councillor Dalrymple

Councillor Dalrymple requested that "Hands Out", in regards to crosswalk safety, be added to the January 2015 meeting for discussion. Councillor Dalrymple explained that he would like to have a discussion on the education and encouragement of bringing this practice back. He further expressed that this practise was effective and raises awareness.

The Committee entered into discussion with Ms. McGillicuddy noting that the Halifax Regional School Board would be open to this discussion and that she would discuss this with the Public School Program Committee. The Committee agreed to have this matter added to their January 2015 agenda for discussion.

- 9. IN CAMERA NONE
- 10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING
- 10.1 PROPOSED 2015 MEETING SCHEDULE

The Committee reviewed the proposed 2015 Meeting Schedule.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Mr. Green that the proposed Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee 2015 meeting schedule be approved, as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Mr. Darcy Warren Legislative Support