

COMMUNITY DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

April 17, 2013

PRESENT: Ms. Dale Godsoe, Chair  
Mr. Fred Morley, Vice Chair  
Mr. Bill Book  
Mr. Geoff LeBoutillier  
Dr. Gaynor Watson Creed  
Councillor Jennifer Watts  
Councillor Gloria McCluskey  
Councillor Waye Mason  
Councillor Lorelei Nicoll

REGRETS: Ms. Joanne Macrae  
Mr. Eric Burchill  
Mr. Peter Moorhouse

STAFF: Ms. Jane Fraser, Director, Planning and Infrastructure  
Mr. Austin French, Manager, Planning  
Ms. Susan Corser, Project Coordinator  
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:34 p.m. in Halifax Hall.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 27, 2013**

**MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Nicoll that the minutes of March 27, 2013 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.

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES/ DEFERRED BUSINESS-  
None**

**5. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**5.1 Correspondence- None**

**5.2 Petitions - None**

**5.3 Presentations**

**5.3.1 Presentation of Study RE: Quantifying Costs and Benefits of Alternate Growth Scenarios – Stantec Consulting**

Mr. John Heseltine, Stantec provided a presentation on Quantifying the Costs and Benefits of Alternative Growth Scenarios. This presentation was a follow-up to the presentation he provided the Committee at its October 10, 2012 meeting. The purpose of the project is to gather empirical data relating to the cost of municipal servicing and of building and maintaining households, community times, as well as greenhouse gas emissions and public health costs and benefits. In addition, an assessment is sought of impact on overall quality of life for HRM residents under alternate growth scenarios.

Mr. Heseltine responded to questions from the Committee.

Mr. French explained that this study was a follow-up to the presentation the Committee heard in October, updated to include things like societal impacts and the economic role. He added that staff intends to use this data when carrying out the public consultations.

In response to a question by Councillor Nicoll with regard to various terms that are used, Mr. French advised that the reason staff are using those terms was because they were the terms used in the Regional Plan, and staff are recommending not changing those terms.

The Chair advised that the information in the presentation was very complex and suggested that the next step may be to create a policy statement from it, to understand the impact. At the Chair's suggestion, there was consensus among the Committee that

staff provide a summary to the Committee clarifying the information and bring it back for discussion.

## **6. REPORTS**

### **6.1 Staff**

#### **6.1.1 Review of Draft Regional Plan**

The Committee continued its review of the Draft Regional Plan finishing up with the Transportation Chapter which was begun at the last meeting.

Mr. Dave McCusker was in attendance and responded to questions.

Councillor Watts noted she had circulated her comments with regard to the Transportation Chapter to the Committee and staff via e-mail. She indicated that she put forward suggestions for the Active Transportation section in regard to a definition of On-road bicycle routes, the Bayers Road widening project,

Discussion ensued with regard to the Bayers Road widening project with Councillor Watts advising that she would like a statement included in the Plan advising that, at least for the next five years, there would be no consideration of widening Bayers Road and any options considered would be in relation to bus lane expansion only.

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Dr. Watson-Creed that draft plan be revised to indicate that there would be at least a five-year delay on any expansion to Bayer's Road, and that any project advanced in this regard would be a dedicated bus lane corridor over the next five year.**

**The vote resulted in a tie, therefore the MOTION WAS PUT AND DEFEATED.**

Further discussion ensued and staff were requested to redraft the chapter so that the goals and objectives would be aligned.

**MOVED by Mr. Morley, seconded by Councillor Mason that when the Draft Plan is ready to be forwarded to the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee, that the Covering Letter flag the issue of the Bayers Road Widening and note that the Committee feels it should be an issue that requires further discussion. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

The Chair thanked Mr. McCusker for his attendance and responding to questions from the Committee.

At this time, the Chair advised that yesterday, she attended a meeting with senior staff where the schedule for the Regional Plan review was discussed. She asked Ms. Fraser to provide an overview of the meeting.

Ms. Fraser explained that the challenges with this project was the amount of staff time consumed in getting the project done, and that there has been a disconnect with the mandate of the Committee versus staff's direction. She noted that the Centre Plan is a very important project but that staff cannot focus on it until the Regional Plan review is moving forward. Ms. Fraser expressed concern with status of the Review and noted there is public consultation yet to be carried out and added that the original timeline called for the public consultation and stakeholder consultation in April, and with the public hearing held sometime in July.

Mr. French added that staff felt the discussion around policy was completed when the Committee reviewed the Fact Sheets, and that if the document says what the Fact Sheets say, then it was time to move forward.

Councillor Mason advised that, in his view, he did not see the Committee's discussion reflected in the statements in the Draft Plan. He suggested that in terms of process, perhaps the Committee should be putting forward motions in this regard. He added that he felt there were key areas of the document that needed more thorough discussion, but for the most part it was good to go out for public consultation.

Mr. Book advised that he felt the first draft staff presented was well done, and that the Committee maybe drilling down too deep in the policy statements.

The Chair advised that the Committee needs to separate the detail and in drilling down to far, but that there needs to be a robust talk on intentions.

The Chair suggested at this point that staff take time and reflect and come back to the Committee on the big principles.

A discussion ensued and the Chair advised that the Committee would commit the next two meetings to reviewing the document. Further, at the request of staff, the Committee would hold an additional meeting in May. The Chair also advised that at the next meeting, staff will present the timeline schedule for the Draft Plan.

- 7. ADDED ITEMS- None**
- 8. NEXT MEETING DATE – May 1, 2013**
- 9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:02 p.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds  
Legislative Assistant