



**COMMUNITY DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
May 27, 2015**

**PRESENT:** Fred Morley, Chair  
Eric Burchill  
Dale Godsoe  
Joanne Maccrae  
Councillor Waye Mason  
Councillor Jennifer Watts  
Councillor McCluskey

**REGRETS:** Gaynor Watson-Creed, Vice Chair  
Bill Book  
Peter Moorhouse  
Councillor Brad Johns

**STAFF:** Jacob Ritchie, Manager, Urban Design  
Sherryl Murphy, Deputy Clerk

*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 Design Advisory Committee are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/CDACMay272015.php>*

*The meeting was called to order at 11:40 a.m. and the Committee adjourned at 1:27 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 1, 2015**

**MOVED Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Watts that the minutes of the April 2, 2015 meeting of the Community Design Advisory Committee be approved as distributed. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Additions:

7.1 Discussion re Community Pressures Centre Plan Area

**MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Watts that the agenda 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**

**6.1 Correspondence - None**

**6.2 Petitions - None**

**6.3 Presentation - None**

**7. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

**7.1 STAFF**

**7.1.1 Staff Update – Centre Plan**

The following was before the Committee:

- A memorandum dated May 21, 2015 from Jacob Ritchie, Urban Design Manager
- The Centre Plan Top Line Work Breakdown Structure including Business Objectives (Workplan)

Mr. Ritchie advised that the web page was up and can be accessed at <http://www.halifax.ca/planhrm/centreplan.php>. He further advised that the Shape your City launch of the Centre Plan would be in June/July.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the Shape your City component with members highlighting that the link to the Shape your City must be easily recognizable and the information on the web page must be up to date with an archive of previous drafts also being maintained on the page.

Mr. Ritchie noted that work on reaching stakeholders was going well but not all had been contacted at this time. He requested assistance in identifying stakeholder groups in Dartmouth and in particular North Dartmouth and Southdale. Mr. Ritchie further indicated that work on establishing the community narrative is progressing and he has been in contact with the Poet Laureate in this regard.

During discussion note was made that concern regarding gentrification in the North End of Halifax must be addressed and the community narrative will be an important aspect of the response.

Mr. Ritchie, citing the significance of potential development, went on to provide a brief update on the Shannon Park lands noting that there was some interest in developing a recreational campus. Mr. Ritchie indicated that staff is grappling with how to respond to a masterplan for development which asks to change policy when HRM is in the process of changing that policy.

In response to a question regarding the format of stakeholder consultation, Mr. Ritchie indicated that the consultation followed a four point agenda which provided a brief education on planning (Planning 101), described the history of the Centre Plan, asked the question 'What is your world' and responded to how the Centre Plan might respond to that world. Mr. Ritchie reviewed the workplan noting that key work will include the identification of policy in force, what are the gaps, and how to fill these gaps. He went on to briefly review the Functional and Technical Studies associated with the Centre Plan.

Committee members expressed concern regarding getting the timing for public consultation communicated as soon as possible. The community is concerned that there will be a land rush in Halifax/Dartmouth and the development approved for those lands will be grandfathered. A question of possible options was raised with note being made that this is a matter for discussion. Mr. Ritchie pointed out that development approvals do not necessarily equal building.

Density bonusing is also a concern and how it is to be implemented has to be determined prior to the draft plan going to the public. An honest and informed discussion about density is needed. What is density and how will it be achieved. Mr. Ritchie indicated that he was working on a white paper which will address this and other issues which need attention before the draft plan is produced.

#### **7.1.2 Green Network Plan – Fact Sheet**

A Fact Sheet entitled Halifax Green Network Plan was distributed to the Committee for information.

#### **7.1.3 Discussion re Committee Composition**

The following was before the Committee:

- A memorandum dated May 21, 2015 from Sherryl Murphy, Deputy Clerk.

Ms. Sherryl Murphy, Deputy Clerk noted that there was one vacancy on the Committee at this time. Additionally, all member terms will expire in November 2015. She suggested that this may be a good time to review the membership criteria and decide if any changes are necessary. The Committee has been provided a copy of the Terms of Reference and the Public Appointment Policy to assist them in this review/discussion.

Following a brief discussion on possible changes and/or expansion of the Committee, it was agreed that further discussion be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee to allow members to consider the advisability of a change to the membership criteria.

#### **8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, June 24, 2015**

#### **9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

Sherryl Murphy  
Deputy Clerk