



**COMMUNITY DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
June 24, 2015**

PRESENT: Fred Morley, Chair
Councillor Waye Mason
Councillor Gloria McCluskey
Councillor Jennifer Watts
Eric Burchill
Dale Godsoe
Joanne Macrae
Peter Moorhouse

REGRETS: Gaynor Watson-Creed, Vice Chair
William Book
Councillor Brad Johns

STAFF: Jacob Ritchie, Urban Design Manager
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 Community Design Advisory Committee are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/CDACAgenda150624.php>

The meeting was called to order at 11:32 a.m. and the Committee adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 27, 2015

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Mason that the minutes of the Community Design Advisory Committee meeting held on May 27, 2015 be approved as distributed. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

8.1 Reporting to Council

The Committee accepted the agenda as amended.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - None

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - None

5.1 Committee Composition

- The May 21, 2015 memo entitled Membership of the Community Design Advisory Committee was redistributed to members.

The Chair noted he would like to defer consideration of this matter pending a review by him of the attendance record and discussion with some of the existing members.

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of this matter pending the Chair having an opportunity to review the attendance records and speaking with existing members.

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS - None

6.1 Correspondence

6.2 Petitions

6.3 Presentation

7. REPORTS

7.1 STAFF

7.1.1 Staff White Paper – The Centre Plan Defined

The following was before the Committee:

- *A document entitled White Paper Packaging Chapter 6: A Backgrounder for the Centre Plan Project prepared by the Urban Design Team*

Mr. Jacob Ritchie, Urban Design Manager, noted that the purpose of the white paper was to clarify what the Centre Plan Project is and the many ways in which it will integrate with other ongoing planning exercises. He indicated that his intent in bringing the paper to this Committee was to ensure a shared understanding of the definition of the Centre Plan.

Mr. Ritchie went on to review the White Paper as distributed to the Committee. He noted that the various elements set out in the paper will become part of the comprehensive plan – the Centre Plan. He noted that the implementation portion of the Centre Plan will stitch together how the operational units will fit in the plan and that the fiscal portion of the plan will help to define some portion of capital spending in the years to come.

The Chair indicated that he wanted to ensure that the Plan will recognize potential savings and how density will impact the cost to HRM. Mr. Ritchie referred to the Density Bonusing technical study and indicated he believed the report would provide the opportunity to identify cost savings. The Chair reiterated that the connection between achieving targets and positive benefits must be captured. Mr. Ritchie indicated that a robust model exists and will be utilized by staff in its monitoring rather than captured in the Plan.

A brief discussion regarding the integration of the plan ensued with Mr. Ritchie indicating that Planning staff is engaging with such related bodies as the Halifax Regional School Board, developing a strong relationship with Halifax Water, and meeting with Transit weekly to ensure integration with their planning.

During further discussion the Committee offered the following:

- A check on the growth assumptions should be undertaken
- A discussion around what it looks like to support families in the urban core including what type of unit will accommodate families. An October/November time frame for a full discussion on this matter would be reasonable
- Providing the vision will go a long way to develop the market situation for families in the urban core
- Show the end dates of all the related studies graphically

7.1.2 Engagement Strategy – Step 1 Report

The following was before the Committee:

- *A document entitled Centre Plan, Community Engagement Strategy, Report of Step 1 – Engage & Define prepared by Jacob Ritchie, Urban Design Manager*

Mr. Ritchie explained that this document provided an update of action to date on Step 1 of the Engagement Strategy.

He went on to explain that the next step in the project is to issue an RFP for comprehensive plan support and communications including engaging with the public and engaging with staff on the technical aspects of the project (i.e. writing of the Centre Plan),

7.1.3 Next Steps - Update

This matter was dealt with during the previous agenda item.

8. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

8.1 Reporting to Council

The Committee briefly discussed how and when they would communicate with Council regarding the project.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor McCluskey the Community Design Advisory Committee recommends that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee forward the Staff White Paper – Centre Plan Defined and the Engagement Strategy – Step 1 Report to Halifax Regional Council for information. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – July 29, 2015

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Sherrill Murphy
Deputy Clerk