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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. in Room 108, Bloomfield Centre.

2. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ecology Action Centre Bike Week Webinar – December 10, 2013
- Halifax Regional Trails Association – Celebration of the Festive Season – December 9, 2013

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 19, 2013

MOVED by Mr. MacGregor, seconded by Ms. Sparling that the minutes of September 19, 2013 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- 9.1 Installation of the Windsor Street Bike Lane
- 9.2 Future Meeting Schedule

MOVED by Ms. Barlow, seconded by Ms. Pugh that the agenda be approved as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – None

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence

7.2 Petitions – None

7.3 Presentations

7.3.1 Dal-TRAC Share the Road Campaign – Dr. Ashan Habib

Dr. Habib, presented the Dalhousie University, Dal-Trac Share the Road Campaign to the Committee. He informed the Committee that the campaign began in August 2012. The campaign included a collision study looking at data from 2007 to 2011.

Dr. Habib informed members that Stakeholder consultation and community engagement were an integral component to the Share the Road Campaign. He provided the following key findings:

- A Share the Road awareness campaign is needed in Nova Scotia
- A campaign should address all user types
- Positive messaging is important
- A campaign should reflect local identity
- An umbrella approach is required
- Strong leadership is key to success
- A campaign should be community-based and utilize social media

Dr. Habib finished his presentation stating that Dal-TRAC would like to see a larger campaign, funding partners, supporters and facilitating a campaign implementation in municipalities across Nova Scotia

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Barlow commented that she would like to see HRM adopt this program due to its positive message.

Councillor Hendsbee commented that he would like to see this campaign run along with Bike Week with the possibility of funding partners.

MOVED by Ms. Barlow, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee that ATAC request that the Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report defining if HRM can implement the “Share the Road Campaign” and where the funding would come from. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Chair thanked Dr. Habib for his informative presentation on behalf of the Committee.

7.3.2 Mr. Andrew Hayes, Sport Nova Scotia regarding cyclists in Point Pleasant Park

Mr. Hayes informed the Committee that cyclists are allowed in the park year round except on weekends and holidays. He also stated that Point Pleasant Park is not included in the Active Transportation Plan. Mr. Hayes questioned who made the rules for cyclists in the park and who enforces them.

Mr. MacGregor stated that battery operated cars are allowed on the road in the park, and questioned why a designated bike lane could not be permitted.

8. REPORTS/UPDATES

8.1 Staff

8.1.1 Active Transportation Staff

Ms. Koblents presented a staff update to the Committee. The following updates were given:

- Bike Racks are being installed in the urban core by Timber-Tech
- Proceeding with corridor to the St. Pat's property next spring
- Public Meeting will be held on January 29, 2014 on the North Park roundabouts, designs and options will be shown
- Review of AT plan should be completed in December 2013
- Ongoing consultations on the Windsor Street bike lane
- Reprint of bike maps expected to be ready in January/February 2014
- December 3, 2013 Bike Week Webinar
- A consultant is doing a 3-D modeling of the MacDonald Bridge Bikeway

8.1.2 Regional Trails Staff

Ms. Debaie informed the Committee that Porters Lake will be used as a template for rural areas. She also noted that the AT review should be completed in February/March 2014.

Ms. Barlow stated that the Halifax Bridge Commission is still interested in bike ramps. She noted the next steps are funding from HRM and public consultation before the re-decking begins.

MOVED by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. MacGregor that Active Transportation recommends consideration of segregated bike lanes for the Cogswell Overpass. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8.2 Halifax Regional Trails Association

Ms. Debaie gave the following update to the Committee:

- HRM Trail staff have been asked to write a Council Report to re-establish the relationship between Halifax Regional Trails Association and the Halifax Regional Municipality
- HRTA Maintenance and Capital Committees accepted proposals for the upcoming budget year.
- At a recent Trail Camp in early November, Mr. Walter Regan, HRTA/AT representative, provided a well-received session on the AT Plan Review.
- Ms. Jane Fraser, Director of Planning, will be making a presentation to HRTA on November 22, 2013
- The Annual Christmas Party will be held at Fairbanks Centre on december 9, 2013

8.3 Bike Week Sub-Committee

Ms. Koblents informed the Committee that Bike week will take place on June 6 -15, 2014. She invited the Committee to participate or recommend volunteers.

Mr. Smith noted that the Halifax Cycling Coalition currently has 500 members and would like to increase that number by 20%

8.4 Committee Members

8.4.1 Matt Worona – Windsor Street Bike Lane Design

Item deferred to next meeting.

8.5 Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee

Ms. Barlow gave an update from the Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee (CSAC). She informed the Committee that CSAC is still working on the report which will be going to the Transportation Standing Committee in March 2014. Ms. Barlow noted that there are presentations coming from schools, parents and crossing guards. She added that Dr. Habib will be presenting the collision study he had referred to during his presentation. She extended an invitation to the Committee to attend these presentations at the next meeting of the CSAC on November 28, 2013. She also noted that there are upcoming presentations from the Halifax Bridge Commission and a Provincial Speed report and that she will inform the Committee of the dates.

9. ADDED ITEMS

9.1 Installation of the Windsor Street Bike Lane

Discussion ensued on the Windsor Street Bike Lane. The following is a list of comments:

- Some residents are upset due to impact on parking
- Windsor Street bike lane was included in the AT Plan
- Positive remarks were made stating it was safer to walk on Windsor Street
- At the beginning business owners were upset over the loss of parking near their business
- Concerns over traffic congestion
- Better communication and public consultation
- Need to be more proactive
- Too early to tell if the lane is a success

9.2 Gordon H Smith, Seniors Representative, ATAC

MOVED by Mr. Smith, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee that this item be deferred to next meeting.

Councillor Hendsbee noted that the Regional Plan + 5 will be going to Regional Council on December 3, 2013 and that the Committee wait until after this meeting to address the concerns from Mr. Smith's letter.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Due to time constraints the Chair asked members of the public to return on December 12, 2013 if they have any questions, concerns or comments.

11. NEXT MEETING – December 12, 2013

The next regular meeting of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee will be held on December 12, 2013, Room 108, Bloomfield Centre.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned 6:04 p.m.

Darcy Warren
Legislative Support