

DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE
MINUTES

January 13, 2011

PRESENT: Mr. Alan Parish, Chair
Mr. William Hyde, Vice-Chair
Mr. Ramzi Kawar
Mr. Terry Smith-Lamothe
Ms. Anne Sinclair
Mr. Nick Pryce
Ms. Sue Sirrs
Ms. Suzanne Saul
Mr. Cesar Saleh
Mr. Jeff Pinhey

REGRETS: Mr. Roy McBride
Ms. Angela Dean

STAFF: Ms. Kelly Denty, Supervisor, Planning Applications
Ms. Mackenzie Stonehocker, Planner I
Mr. Richard Harvey, Senior Planner, Western Division
Ms. Julie Vandervoort, Legislative Support

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CALL TO ORDER.....	3
	Appointment of Chair & Vice Chair	3
	Approval of 2011 Meeting Schedule	4
2.	APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES	4
3.	APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS.....	4
4.	BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES/STAFF UPDATES	4
5.	CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS	4
6.	DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS	4
6.1	Westwood Developments Ltd. – Upcoming substantive site plan approval application for a new 4-storey commercial building at 5489-91 and 5495 Spring Garden Road and 1515 Birmingham Street, Halifax	4
7.	REPORTS/DISCUSSION	5
7.1	Halifax Central Library	5
8.	ADDED ITEMS	5
9.	NEXT MEETING DATE	5
10.	ADJOURNMENT	5

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. in Halifax Hall, 2nd Floor City Hall.

1. Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair

Mr. Parish invited comments from Committee members regarding proceeding with the appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair at this meeting. After a brief discussion, members decided unanimously to proceed.

Ms. Vandervoort, Legislative Support, assumed the Chair and called for nominations for the Chair of the Design Review Committee.

MOVED by Mr. Smith-Lamothe, seconded by Mr. Pryce that Mr. Parish be nominated Chair of the Design Review Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Ms. Vandervoort called three times for further nominations, hearing none, the following motion was placed.

MOVED by Mr. Pryce, seconded by Ms. Sirrs, that nominations cease. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Mr. Parish accepted the nomination and the appointment as Chair of the Design Review Committee.

Ms. Vandervoort called for nominations for the Vice-Chair of the Design Review Committee.

MOVED by Mr. Hyde, seconded by Ms. Sinclair, that Mr. Smith-Lamothe be nominated Vice-Chair of the Design Review Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Ms. Vandervoort called three times for further nominations, hearing none, the following motion was placed.

MOVED by Mr. Pinhey, seconded by Mr. Saleh, that nominations cease. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Mr. Smith-Lamothe accepted the nomination and the appointment as Vice-Chair of the Design Review Committee.

Mr. Parish resumed the Chair.

2. Approval of 2011 Meeting Schedule

The Committee agreed that the November 10, 2011 meeting should be moved to November 9, 2011. The remaining 2011 meeting dates were approved.

MOVED by Mr. Saleh, seconded by Ms. Sirrs, that the 2011 meeting schedule, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOVED by Mr. Smith-Lamothe, seconded by Mr. Pryce, that the minutes of September 9, 2010, as presented, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

MOVED by Ms. Saul, seconded by Mr. Pryce, that the Order of Business, as presented, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES/STAFF UPDATES - None

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - None

6. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

6.1 Westwood Developments Ltd. – Upcoming substantive site plan approval application for a new 4-storey commercial building at 5489-91 and 5495 Spring Garden Road and 1515 Birmingham Street, Halifax

Representatives of Westwood Developments Limited provided a presentation to the Committee. Following the presentation, the following points of clarification were provided to the Committee:

- what is the extent of the building projection over the sidewalk
- the shallow hedge trim on the roof (there is no public access to the roof)
- type of landscaping and HRM by Design requirements
- the canopy design and the building's corner on Spring Garden Road
- the requested height variance (between two and three feet to accommodate design of the top floor)
- the choice of building materials in relation to graffiti prevention

Committee members expressed their appreciation for the presentation.

At 6:55 p.m. Mr. Pinhey retired from the meeting citing a previous commitment.

7. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

7.1 Halifax Central Library

- A memorandum dated December 20, 2010 was before the Committee.

Ms. Sirrs declared a conflict of interest as she is involved in the project and excused herself from the discussion.

The Fowler, Bauld & Mitchell Design Team provided a presentation and update to the Committee on the extent of the public consultation and the progress of the design plans.

Mr. Harvey, Senior Planner, then gave a presentation on the variance requested (projections/extensions over lower walls) in the context of the Design Manual and landmark civic buildings. Mr. Harvey explained that this was an information presentation as the application itself is not yet before the Committee.

The Chair invited Committee discussion on the variance request. Committee members discussed the intent and authority of the variance guidelines in the Design Manual relevant to landmark projects. The Committee concluded that, at this time, it did not have concerns about the design elements of the variance request.

The Chair and several Committee members expressed appreciation to the Central Library Design Team for the presentation.

8. ADDED ITEMS - None

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, February 10, 2011.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee expressed its appreciation to Mr. Hyde for his service as Vice-Chair of the Design Review Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Julie Vandervoort
Legislative Support