



**HALIFAX EXPLOSION ANNIVERSARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
December 16, 2015**

**PRESENT:** Craig Walkington, Chair  
Mr. David Sutherland  
Ms. Marilyn Elliott  
Mr. Barry Cahill  
Councillor Watts

**REGRETS:** Ms. Renee Gruszecki  
Mr. William Robinson-Mushkat  
Ms. Pat Jessup

**STAFF:** Mr. Peter Greechan, Community Developer, Grants & Contributions, HRM  
Finance  
Mr. Billy Comer, Event Coordinator  
Ms. Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Tax, Grants & Special Projects  
Ms. Elizabeth Taylor, Manager of Culture and Events, Parks & Recreation  
Mr. Jamie MacLellan, Community Developer, Parks & Recreation

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to the Halifax Explosion Anniversary Advisory Committee are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/explosion/index.php>*

*The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. and adjourned at 4:48 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 18, 2015**

MOVED by Ms. Marilyn Elliott, seconded by Mr. David Sutherland

**THAT the minutes of November 18, 2015 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED**

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

The Chair indicated that; he would like the Committee to engage in a brief discussion of the 2015 ceremony prior to the discussion of the 2017 ceremony. Committee members indicated their agreement.

Additions:           10.1    Correspondence from Hugh Mackay  
                          10.2    Correspondence from Rear Admiral John F. Newton  
                          10.3    Correspondence from Mr. Ken Duncan

MOVED by Mr. Barry Cahill, seconded Ms. Marilyn Elliott

**THAT the agenda be approved as amended.**

Two-third majority vote required.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

**4.1 Update – Commemorative Program**

**4.1.1 Special Advisory Committee on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Halifax Explosion: Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grants Program Update as of November, 2015.**

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff information report dated November 15, 2015.

Ms. Peta-Jane Temple informed the Committee that a review panel has been convened and that staff are fielding a number of inquiries from interested parties.

**4.1.2 Grant Recommendation Report to Council - Timelines**

The following was before the Committee:

- A chart outlining the timeline for the Halifax Explosion Anniversary Advisory Committee Grants

Ms. Peta-Jane Temple explained that the Grant recommendations made by the review panel will come to the Halifax Explosion Anniversary Advisory Committee, then to the Grants Committee, and ultimately to Regional Council before the end of the fiscal year. She informed the Committee that in order to have the recommendations to Grants on March 1, 2016, the recommendations would need to go the Halifax Explosion Anniversary Advisory Committee in January, but that they would not necessarily be ready by

the scheduled meeting on January 20, 2016. She asked the Committee if they would consider either moving their January meeting ahead a week, or calling a special meeting to review the recommendations.

The Chair asked the Committee what course of action they determined to be best, and all Committee members indicated that it would be best to move the January meeting to the January 27, 2016.

#### **4.2 Update – Committee Vacancies**

The Legislative Assistant informed the Committee that two new members had been appointed. Mr. Barry Cahill, who was present at the December meeting, and Mr. Dan O'Brien, who would be joining the Committee at the January meeting.

### **5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

The Chair, Mr. Craig Walkington, informed the Committee that, for the sake of transparency, he would like to announce that he is the communications officer for Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia and that the Lieutenant Governor will have his own commemorative program for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Halifax Explosion in 2017.

### **6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**

### **7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

#### **7.1 Correspondence**

##### **7.1.1 Correspondence from Ms. Christine McPhee**

The following was before the Committee:

- *A letter from Ms. Christine McPhee re: Halifax Explosion Survivor, Stewart Webb*

##### **7.1.2 Correspondence from Mr. Paul Boudreau**

The following was before the Committee:

- *A letter from Mr. Paul Boudreau re: Music Video*

##### **7.1.3 Correspondence from Mr. J. Gordon Wahay**

The following was before the Committee:

- *A letter from Mr. J. Gordon Wahay re: The Halifax Explosion and Railway Service*

##### **7.1.4 Correspondence from Mr. Leon Matthys**

The following was before the Committee:

- *A letter from Mr. Leon Matthys re: Stamp Collection*

##### **7.1.4 Correspondence from Mr. J.K. Stubbart**

The following was before the Committee:

- *A letter from Mr. J.K. Stubbart re: Bridge Renaming*

#### **10.1 Correspondence from Hugh Mackay**

The following was before the Committee:

- *A letter from Mr. Hugh Mackay of Doors Open Halifax re: 2017 Doors Open program*

## 10.2 Correspondence from Rear Admiral John F. Newton

The following was before the Committee:

- *A letter from Rear Admiral John F. Newton re: Navy participation in the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Halifax Explosion*

## 10.3 Correspondence from Mr. Ken Duncan

The following was before the Committee:

- *A letter from Mr. Ken Duncan re: Coordinating Boston and Halifax Christmas Tree Lightings.*

Committee members acknowledged receipt of the correspondence.

## 8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD - NONE

## 9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

### 9.1 STAFF

#### 9.1.1 December 6, 2017 Memorial Event Planning Discussion

Mr. Billy Comer, Event Planner, gave a brief presentation regarding the the 2017 Commemorative Service at Fort Needham.

Councillor Watts entered the meeting at 3:25

The Committee engaged in discussion and the following suggestions were put forth:

- That the Minister of Canadian Heritage be included
- That the list of invitations be divided by those invited to attend, and those invited to speak
- That services are provided for persons with impaired vision
- That the oldest living survivor should have a role
- That there should be tents available to the public

Mr. Billy Comer and Ms. Elizabeth Taylor answered questions of clarification from Committee members with regards to the commemorative Bells and the musical performances for the ceremony.

MOVED by Marilyn Elliott, seconded by Mr. Barry Cahill

**THAT Mr. Paul Boudreau be allowed to speak.**

Two-third majority vote required

### **MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Mr. Paul Boudreau suggested contacting Joel Plasket and emphasized the importance of music for engaging youth.

The Committee discussed the reception that follows the ceremony, the Dartmouth ceremony, and the challenges to traffic control, parking, and transportation to Fort Needham Park on the day of the ceremony.

The Committee briefly discussed the 2015 ceremony, commenting that the large number of attendees was a surprise and emphasizing the importance of communicating with all groups involved in the ceremony.

**9.1.2 2016 Meeting Schedule – updated**

MOVED by Ms. Marilyn Elliott, seconded by Mr. Barry Cahill

**THAT the meeting scheduled for January 20, 2016 be moved to the January 27, 2016.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.2 COMMITTEE**

**10. ADDED ITEMS**

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, January 20, 2016 – 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Room B239, NSCC, 5685 Leeds Street, Halifax. (*Changed to January 27, 2016*).**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:48

Cathy Collett  
Legislative Assistant