



**HALIFAX EXPLOSION 100TH ANNIVERSARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
October 19, 2016**

PRESENT: Mr. Craig Walkington, Chair
Ms. Marilyn Elliott
Mr. Barry Cahill
Mr. Dan O'Brien
Ms. Pat Jessup, Vice Chair
Mr. William Robinson-Mushkat
Mr. David Sutherland

REGRETS: Ms. Renee Gruszecki

STAFF: Ms. Cathy Collett, Legislative Assistant

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 100th Anniversary Advisory Committee are available online:
<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/explosion/index.php>*

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m., and adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 21, 2016

MOVED by Ms. Pat Jessup, seconded by Ms. Marilyn Elliott

THAT the minutes of September 21, 2016 be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

10.1 HRM Definition of Survivor – Ms. Marilyn Elliott

MOVED by Mr. Barry Cahill, seconded by Mr. Dan O'Brien

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

2/3 majority vote required.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1.1 Correspondence from Sabina Pollayparambil

7.1.2 Correspondence from John Bignell

The Committee acknowledged receipt of the correspondence and agreed to pass the two items along to staff for their response and consideration.

7.3.1 Mike Bonin, Base Public Affairs Officer, CFB Halifax

Mr. Bonin explained that what is being proposed for the December 6th ceremony this year is a command team of 4-6 personnel with the most senior member laying a wreath, a bugler for the ceremony, and a ship signal at the appropriate time during the day.

Committee members thanked Mr. Bonin for the contribution and questioned the availability of the Stadacona Band. The Committee expressed an interest in having the band play at the ceremony, commenting that with the proper stage managing the band would provide an important element to the ceremony.

The Chair asked Mr. Billy Comer to comment on the participation of the band. Mr. Comer commented that he thought the band was an important element but that it would be important for the Master of Ceremonies to provide the proper cues in order that the ceremony runs smoothly and according to plan.

The Committee agreed that there would not be room for a quarter guard at the ceremony. For the December 2017 ceremony, Mr. Bonin offered the services of a 4-6 member command team, a bugler, the Stadacona Band, a three person colour team, a Marlant guard, a 30 person contingent from HMS Halifax, a military chaplain, a fly past, a wreath toss from a ship or helicopter to the site at where the ships collided, and the use of Admiralty House as a facility for a post ceremony reception.

The Committee expressed appreciation for the extensive list of options and thanked Mr. Bonin for the contribution.

Mr. Bonin requested that he be notified of the next meeting.

7.3.2 Brad Connors, Division Commander, Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency, Operations “C” Platoon, Division 3

Mr. Brad Connors informed the Committee that their annual December 6th ceremony would be held at Station 4 on Lady Hammond Road this year. He explained that one possibility for an element of the 100th anniversary commemoration will be to send a contingent to Boston for their Christmas Tree lighting. Also, to have the Mayor and a contingent of firefighters from Boston come to Halifax for December 6th. He noted that there is a committee struck by the firefighters union and that they would like to spruce up the monument in honour of the 100th year commemoration.

Mr. Connors informed the Committee that there has been discussion about having a special scene in the International Tattoo this year to honour the nine firefighters that were killed in the Halifax Explosion in which the firefighters would participate.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS/DISUCSSION

9.1 STAFF - NONE

9.2 COMMITTEE

9.2.1 Poet Laureate

Mr. Barry Cahill noted that he has heard from an informed source that George Elliot Clarke has not received any request from the city to commission a work for the 100th Anniversary of the Halifax Explosion. The Committee requested that the Legislative Assistant ask Staff to address this at the next Committee meeting.

9.2.2 Time Capsule

The Chair explained that the HRM Cultural Assets Manager, Kelly Mclvor, has prepared a handout on the time capsules to aid the committee in their development of the time capsule that constitutes their contribution to the 100th commemoration. The handout was circulated to Committee members.

MOVED by Mr. Barry Cahill, seconded by Mr. William Robinson-Mushkat

THAT the Halifax Explosion Anniversary Advisory Committee request permission to conduct a Saturday workshop for the purpose of carrying out the plans for the time capsule.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Committee discussed their upcoming schedules and requested that the workshop be held on Saturday, January 7, 2017 and that Kelly McIvor and any other relevant staff members be in attendance.

10. ADDED ITEMS

10.1 HRM Definition of Survivor – Marilyn Elliott

The Committee discussed the difficulty of establishing criteria for what constitutes a survivor of the Halifax Explosion and discussed the importance of not using the term too loosely as this minimizes the meaning of such a designation.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, November 16, 2016 - 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

The Committee discussed cancelling the November meeting due to the availability of Committee members.

MOVED by Mr. Barry Cahill, seconded by Ms. Pat Jessup

THAT the regularly scheduled meeting for November be cancelled.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Committee requested that the Legislative Assistant communicate by e-mail to Committee members if anything comes up before the December meeting that requires immediate attention.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

Cathy Collett
Legislative Assistant