

HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

March 23, 2011

- PRESENT: Mr. Stephen Terauds, Chair
Ms. Catherine Thibeault, Vice Chair
Ms. Susan Carroll
Mr. Mark Archibald
Ms. Carly Sorensen
Ms. Tori Jarvis
Mr. Arthur Irwin
Councillor Robert Harvey
- REGRETS: Mr. Adam Conter
Ms. Lisa Miller
Mr. Paul Matthews (absent)
- STAFF: Ms. Maggie Holm, Heritage Planner/Officer
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in Halifax Hall and welcomed Councillor Robert Harvey, noting that Regional Council recently appointed him to the Committee. The Chair also noted that Regional Council would soon be making additional appointments to the Committee.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED by Ms. Carroll, seconded by Ms. Thibeault that the minutes of October 27, 2010 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

The Chair advised that a staff report pertaining to the application on the Discovery Centre building (1595 Barrington Street) was finalized this morning and staff are requesting the Committee's consideration of holding a special meeting to deal with it. He added that the application is under tight timelines and is required to have had a Regional Council public hearing by May 10, 2011. Staff is requesting a special meeting because it will not meet the deadlines if it is forwarded to the Committee's next regular meeting.

The Chair advised that the item *Consideration of a Special Meeting* would be discussed further under 'Added Items', as item 8.1.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES / STATUS SHEET:

4.1 Business Arising: None

4.2 Status Sheet: None

5. DEFERRED ITEMS: None

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS:

6.1 Correspondence: None

6.2 Petitions: None

6.3 Presentations: None

6.4 Updates from HAC Members - HRM Committees and HAC Sub-committees - None

7. REPORTS:

7.1 Staff:

7.1.1 2010 Annual Report for the Heritage Property Program

An Information Report dated March 9, 2011 was submitted.

Ms. Maggie Holm, Heritage Planner/Officer presented the 2010 Annual Report of the Heritage Property Program which provided an overview of the activities and achievements over the past year as well as the future initiatives of HRM's Heritage Division. The presentation reviewed work done on the Heritage Incentives Program, the Barrington Street Heritage Incentives Program, Heritage Registrations/De-registrations, Demolitions, Permits/Certificates of Appropriateness, Planning Applications, and general inquiries received by staff. She also highlighted the work that staff has been involved with in regard to amendments to the Provincial Heritage Property Act, and in updating the Heritage Property Program website.

Ms. Holm advised that in 2011 staff will be focusing on Heritage Conservation Districts, in particular, the Old South Suburb (South Barrington). In addition, staff will be focusing on the creation of a Heritage Functional Plan, and will undertake a review of the existing brochures and possibly create some new brochures that provide information on how to maintain a heritage property.

7.2 Committee Members:

7.2.1 Library – Committee Discussion

The Chair advised that this matter was raised some time ago and the Committee held a discussion in general terms, but has never had an opportunity to revisit it. He added that the Committee has received some background information and is aware that a Master Plan was created of the general area, but the Committee did not come to any conclusion on how it wanted to deal with this matter. The Chair suggested that options for the Committee's consideration include: the Committee could request registration of the building, and by doing so it could ask for particular information from staff; or, the Committee could choose not to go through the registration process but ask Regional Council to consider the heritage aspect of the Library.

Ms. Maggie Holm, Heritage Planner/Officer advised that in the previous Committee discussion there was consensus that the Library was worth saving and protecting. She explained that if the Committee wanted to move forward in this regard, it could ask Regional Council to initiate the registration process. Staff would then hire a researcher to gather background information and, from this, staff would prepare a report which would be brought to the Committee. The Committee would score the building according to the set Evaluation Criteria, and if it scored positively then the Committee would forward a positive recommendation to Council.

A discussion ensued.

MOVED by Mr. Archibald, seconded by Mr. Irwin that HRM seek to register the Library as a historic building in a timely fashion to ensure proper consideration.

Discussion ensued as to whether it would be appropriate, procedurally, for the Committee to request that Regional Council register the Library or if the Committee should request a staff report on the Library, including evaluation and scoring criteria. Subsequently, without a vote taken on the motion, the following motion was placed:

MOVED by Mr. Archibald, seconded by Mr. Irwin that staff provide a report in regard to registering the Library as a heritage property. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8. ADDED ITEMS:

8.1 Consideration of a Special Meeting

The Chair advised that staff is requesting the Committee hold a special meeting to deal with Case 01231: Development Agreement – 1595 Barrington Street. He noted that there was some urgency to this matter as there are timelines established which require Regional Council to hold a public hearing by May 10, 2011. The Chair added that First Reading is required to be given three weeks prior to this, and if the Committee is to deal with it and make a recommendation, then a special meeting would have to be held within the next two weeks. The Chair advised that the Committee needs to decide first if it wants to hold a special meeting and, if so, then a date needs to be scheduled.

Mr. Richard Harvey, Senior Planner, responded to questions.

Following a discussion, it was agreed that the Committee would hold a special meeting on Thursday, March 31, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

A special meeting was scheduled for Thursday March 31, 2011.

The next regular meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, April 27, 2011.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.