

HALIFAX WATERSHED ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES  
July 18, 2007

PRESENT: Dr. Wayne Stobo, Chair  
Ms. Ellinor Williams  
Mr. Walter Regan  
Dr. Barry Thomas  
Mr. Derrill Hynick  
Councillor Mary Wile

REGRETS: Mr. Nathaniel Smith  
Mr. Ross Evans  
Mr. David Ripley

STAFF: Ms. Julia Horncastle, Legislative Assistant

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

**MOVED by Walter Regan, seconded by Ellinor Williams, that the Order of Business, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Regan requested an item entitled "Request for Funds re: Watershed Studies" be added to the next meeting agenda.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - June 20, 2007**

**MOVED by Walter Regan, seconded by Ellinor Williams, that the minutes be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Dr. Stobo, Mr. Regan and Dr. Thomas provided an update on their meeting with the representatives of DDV Gold Ltd.

**5. DEFERRED AND STATUS SHEET ITEMS**

**5.1 Wind Turbine Siting in Watersheds**

This item was addressed later in the meeting. (See page 5)

**5.2 Septic Tanks**

This item was addressed later in the meeting. (See page 5)

**5.3 Open Space Guidelines**

Due to time constraints, this item was deferred to the next meeting.

**6. REPORTS**

**6.1 Case 01004 - Redevelopment of the Former BC Silver School Site, (Spryfield) Halifax**

- A report dated July 9, 2007, on the above noted was before the Board.

Mr. Richard Harvey, Planner, and Mr. Andrew Giles, representing Kimberley-Lloyd Developments Limited, presented the proposal to the Board.

In response to questions by the Board, Mr. Giles advised:

- There are no oil/grit separators proposed,
- There is no proposal for a retention pond,
- The buffer will be owned by HRM,
- Water testing of McIntosh Run has not been proposed at this time,
- Asphalt will be removed,
- A Phase 1 Environmental Study has been completed and no oil spill was found,
- There may be some blasting,
- Due to the removal of hard surfaces, there will be a reduction in the amount of runoff water into McIntosh Run,
- There will be a rock lined contour dispersion ditch,
- They will provide a landscape plan for the site,
- The pathway will be close to the twenty metre buffer.

Following discussion, the Board put forward the following recommendations:

- The developer be required to install an oil grit separators on the storm drainage system,
- Creation of water retention area to mitigate storm flows going into McIntosh Run,
- All C&D materials be disposed off at an approved C&D site,
- All open space areas and buffer zones be turned over to HRM,
- Water testing of McIntosh Run at the upstream end of the development and downstream of the storm water runoff entry point,
- Erosion and sedimentation controls pre and post development and seasonally every three months until one year after the last house has been stabilized,
- The trail should meet provincial standards,
- There be an approved erosion and sediment control plan,
- The park area be designed by a registered landscape architect to include native vegetation.

## **6.2 Ashburn Golf Course Water Sampling Results**

Due to time constraints, this item was deferred to the next meeting.

## **6.3 Application for a Development Agreement for Open Space Subdivision, Petpeswick Inlet**

- A report dated July 6, 2007, on the above noted, was before the Board.

Ms. Hanita Koblents, Planner, presented the report to the Board.

Mr. Regan requested consideration be given to a 30 metre setback from watercourses.

Dr. Stobo indicated a differential to the twenty metre watercourse buffer on Porter Pond and requested the buffer be extended out at this point to cover this area to the 1:100 year flood level. In addition, he suggested the developer be encouraged to look at cluster septic systems rather than individual on site systems as well as provide right of way for public access to Petpeswick Inlet.

Following discussion, the Board agreed not to form recommendations at this stage but rather at the second stage.

### **5.1 Wind Turbine Siting in Watersheds**

In response to Dr. Stobo, Mr. Harvey suggested the Board may wish to make recommendations at this point or request that the Board be provided the final recommendations for comment prior to going to Regional Council.

Dr. Stobo suggested the Board forward a letter to the Mayor stating it is unable to provide any advice at this point in time from the watershed/water quality point of view. The letter could request that before recommendations are sent to Council, the respective Watershed Boards have an opportunity to comment on the draft report.

It was suggested that Mr. Harvey ascertain whether it was the intention of staff to receive public consultation and input from the Boards prior to going to Council.

### **5.2 Septic Tanks**

A copy of the draft report to Regional Council was before the Board. The Board reviewed the report and the following suggested changes were made;

- Under "Origin" "(RMPS)" be placed after the word Strategy,
- The paragraph beginning with "The Halifax Watershed Advisory Board.... be moved to the "Discussion" section of the report and following the sentence ending with the word "inspectors" the following be inserted "*There are provisions in the RMPS for HRM to assume this function from the provincial government. The local citizens are impacted the most by a degradation of the water resources and HRM must develop*

*an action plan aimed at protection of these water resources for the benefit of future generations and all life forms that depend on these fresh water resources”*,

- Under recommendations the wording “The Halifax Watershed Advisory Board recommends Halifax Regional Council,
- The last sentence in Recommendation #1 be reworded to state *“inspectors would report on and take action with any septic system found to be out of compliance with the provincial standards for septic tanks”*
- Recommendation #2 - No change,
- The word “*of*” would be inserted after the word remediation in Recommendation #3,
- The words *“developing a coordinated system related to the inspection, monitoring and maintenance of septic tank systems”* be inserted after the word “at” in Recommendation #4,
- Recommendation #5 would be added defining the word “maintained” and would read *“The definition of “maintained” as contained in the HRM planning strategy is recommended by the Board to mean a fully functional and effective septic tank disposal and treatment system that meets the design standards for the treatment of normal household sewage on a continuous and uninterrupted basis”*,
- The words “usually every 3 yrs” in paragraph three of the background section be reworded to state *“the current recommended standard is 3 years”*,
- The word “administering” in paragraph five be replaced with “*sponsoring*” and the word “*Environmental*” be inserted before the word “home”,
- The sentence *“Relatively few people in HRM have applied for this grant”* replace the sentences beginning with “To date.... and No grants”,
- The sentence beginning with “One of the main focuses...’ to be moved up to paragraph five and the sentence starting with “This program...” in paragraph five me moved to start a new paragraph,
- Under “Note” the word “*currently*” be inserted at the beginning of the sentence beginning with the words “The cost...”. The words “should remain” be replaced with “*are*”. The sentences beginning with the words “This is the responsibility,,, and A new septic system.....” be removed.

7. **ADDED ITEMS - NONE**

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 19, 2007.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Julia Horncastle  
Legislative Assistant