

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

HALIFAX WATERSHED ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
February 18, 2009

PRESENT:

Mr. David Ripley
Mr. Ross Evans
Mr. Walter Regan
Ms. Ellinor Williams
Mr. Derrill Hynick
Mr. Scott Harron
Dr. Barry Thomas

REGRETS:

Deputy Mayor David Hendsbee
Mr. Nathaniel Smith

STAFF:

Mr. Brian White, Planner
Ms. Barbara Coleman, Legislative Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CALL TO ORDER	3
2	WELCOME NEW MEMBERS	3
3.	ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR	3
4.	APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES	3
5.	APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS	3
6.	BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES	
	6.1 Role of HWAB	3
7.	DEFERRED AND STATUS SHEET ITEMS	4
8.	NEW BUSINESS	
	8.1 Meeting with Jacques Whitford	4
	8.2 Invitation from BWAB	5
9.	CORRESPONDENCE	5
10.	REPORTS	5
11	ADDED ITEMS	6
12	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	6
13	ADJOURNMENT	6

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. in the Media Room.

2. **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

No new members were present at the meeting.

3. **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

MOVED By Mr. Walter Regan, seconded by Mr. Ross Evans, that Ms. Ellinor Williams be appointed Chair of the Halifax Watershed Advisory Committee.

The Legislative Assistant called three times for further nominations, hearing none, nominations were closed.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED By Mr. Ross Evans, seconded by Dr. Barry Thomas, that Mr. Walter Regan be appointed Vice Chair of the Halifax Watershed Advisory Committee.

Ms Williams called three times for further nominations, hearing none, nominations were closed.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - November 19, 2008**

MOVED BY Mr. Ross Evans, seconded by Mr. Walter Regan, that the minutes of November 19, 2008, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

MOVED By Mr. Ross Evans, seconded by Dr. Barry Thomas, that the Order of Business be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

6.1 **Role of HWAB**

The question was raised as to whether this item should be deferred until the ongoing staff discussions have been completed and a decision has been made as to how the

three Watershed Advisory Boards will function in the future..

Discussion ensued. The Board noted their frustration in making recommendations and not knowing if they are being used. The Board felt they should write a letter to the Mayor inquiring on the status of the report on the Septic Tanks in HRM which was an issue that had gone forward as a recommendation.

MOVED By Mr. Derrill Hynick, seconded by Dr. Barry Thomas that the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board write a letter to the Mayor inquiring on the status of the report on the Septic tanks in HRM. MOTION PUT AND PASSED

Discussion ensued on the Red Book and what revisions could be made to incorporate the Watershed Board's most frequent re commendations. It was suggested that a "Green Book" which would deal with environmental issues be drafted to accompany the Red Book.

The Board considered whether or not it should continue reviewing development agreements. Mr. Brian White, Planner, pointed out that, because very few development projects are covered by Development Agreements and the areas involved are not usually extensive, the Board is unable to extend its protection of the environment over entire watersheds. Mr. Regan responded that, despite this, the Board should continue to review development agreements and also to maintain its goal of protecting watersheds.

MOVED By Mr. David Ripley, seconded by Mr. Walter Regan that the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board continues to review development agreements. MOTION PUT AND PASSED

Ms. Williams noted that not all the HWAB recommendations are on the HRM Website. She advised she will try to provide a complete list of recommendations to be uploaded to the Website.

7. DEFERRED - NONE

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Meeting with Jacques Whitford

Ms. Williams advised the Board that Ms. Kate Green and Ms. Julia Sullivan of Jacques Whitford, now Stantec, would like to meet with all three of the Watershed Advisory Boards to review the draft HRM Water Quality Monitoring Functional Plan.

It was suggested that there should be testing of all watersheds in HRM. Members of the Board suggested different lakes that should be tested. It was noted that rivers would be

more difficult to test because of the moving water.

It was also noted that the Bedford Institute of Oceanography does sampling of different waterways throughout the year. It was suggested that HRM should try to obtain these reports. Mr. Regan suggested that HRM should also be testing the ground water .

8.2 Invitation from BWAB

The Bedford Watershed Advisory Board has invited Halifax Watershed Advisory Board to their next meeting, March 11, 2009 to discuss the possible merger of the two Boards. Ms Williams informed the Board that the suggestion had also been made that the boundaries of the two Boards be redefined.

Ms. Williams advised the Board that the terms of references for both boards are very similar though BWAB deals with a wider range of issues in one or two districts and the HWAB is responsible for issues more directly related to water resource protection and covers most of the remaining 23 districts in HRM.

Dr. Thomas suggested that meeting with BWAB may not be very productive until the higher level talks are finished. He suggested waiting until they are finished and then seeing if the meeting between the two Watersheds Boards was still needed.

Mr. Regan suggested that members of HWAB attend the meeting as the invitation was extended to them and report back to the Board. He advised that no decisions would be made at this meeting, it would be for information purposes only.

The Board agreed that a delegation of HWAB would attend BWAB and bring a report back to the HWAB.

9. CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

10. REPORTS - NONE

11. ADDED ITEMS - NONE

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Halifax Watershed Advisory meeting will be held on March 18, 2009

Halifax Regional Municipality
Halifax Watershed Advisory Board

6

February 18, 2009

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Barbara Coleman
Legislative Assistant