

NORTH WEST TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

April 13, 2011

PRESENT:           Mr. John Merrick, Chair  
                      Mr. Michael Cormier  
                      Mr. Phil Cox  
                      Mr. Ian MacLaine  
                      Mr. Stephen J. Scott

REGRETS:           Mr. Alan Barnhill  
                      Councillor Brad Johns

STAFF:             Ms. Chris Newson, Legislative Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CALL TO ORDER.....	3
2.	ELECTION OF CHAIR / VICE – CHAIR.....	3
3.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 9, 2011 .....	4
4.	APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS.....	4
5.	BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES .....	4
6.	CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS .....	4
7.	CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS .....	4
8.	REPORTS .....	4
	8.1 Committee Members .....	4
	8.1.1 Bedford Visioning .....	5
	8.2 Staff Updates.....	5
	8.2.1 Transit Service Lucasville Road and Area .....	5
	8.2.2 Dartmouth Transit Terminal.....	5
	8.2.3 Park and Ride at Highway 101 and 103 .....	5
	8.2.4 Request for Overhead Pedestrian Lights (RA-5) Old Sackville Road/Walker Connector Road .....	6
	8.2.5 Request for Bus Route from Park and Rides along Highway 103 in Tantallon to Hammonds Plains Road to Bedford.....	6
	8.2.6 Request for Information on Metro Transit’s On Time Performance Measures.....	7
	8.2.7 Route 33 Service Request to Pine Tree and Yankee Town Roads .....	7
9.	ADDED ITEMS .....	7
	9.1 Membership Update .....	7
10.	NEXT MEETING DATE .....	7
11.	ADJOURNMENT .....	7

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in Acadia Room 1, Sackville Planning Office, 636 Sackville Drive, Lower Sackville.

The Committee requested that proposed Added Item 9.1 be dealt with at this time.

### 9.1 Membership Update

The Legislative Assistant advised that at their April 5, 2011 meeting, the North West Community Council re-appointed the following persons to the North West Transit Advisory Committee for a term ending November 30, 2012: Mr. Phil Cox, Mr. Michael Cormier, Mr. Ian MacLaine, Mr. John Merrick and Mr. Stephen Scott. Mr. Allan Barnhill's term runs until April 2012.

The Legislative Assistant advised that Ms. Christina Parker had submitted her resignation from the Committee on March 28<sup>th</sup>; the resignation was forwarded to the North West Community Council for their April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting and was accepted.

## 2. ELECTION OF CHAIR / VICE – CHAIR

The Legislative Assistant called for nominations for Chair of the North West Transit Advisory Committee for the 2011 term.

**MOVED by Mr. Stephen Scott, seconded by Mr. Ian MacLaine that Mr. John Merrick be nominated as Chair of the North West Transit Advisory Committee for the 2011 term.**

The Legislative Assistant gave the third call for further nominations, hearing none it was **MOVED by Mr. MacLaine, seconded by Mr. Cox that nominations cease. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Mr. Merrick accepted the nomination. A vote was then taken on the motion.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Mr. Merrick was elected Chair of the North West Transit Advisory Committee for 2011.

The Legislative Assistant called for nominations for Vice-Chair of the North West Transit Advisory Committee for the 2011 term.

**MOVED by Mr. MacLaine, seconded by Mr. Cox that Mr. Stephen Scott be nominated as Vice-Chair of the North West Transit Advisory Committee for the 2011 term.**

Mr. Michael Cormier offered to serve as Vice-Chair for the 2011 term.

Mr. Scott respectfully declined the nomination; it was then **MOVED by Mr. MacLaine, seconded by Mr. Cox that Mr. Michael Cormier be nominated as Vice-Chair of the North West Transit Advisory Committee for the 2011 term.**

The Legislative Assistant gave the third call for any further nominations for Vice-Chair; hearing none, it was **MOVED by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. MacLaine that nominations cease. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Mr. Cormier accepted the nomination. A vote was then taken on the nomination.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Mr. Michael Cormier was appointed Vice-Chair of the North West Transit Advisory Committee for the 2011 term.

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 9, 2011**

Correction: Mr. MacLaine was listed as both present and absent on March 9<sup>th</sup>. he was absent.

Ms. Christina Parker was listed as both present and absent on March 9<sup>th</sup>, she was present.

Mr. Cormier was listed as present for March 9<sup>th</sup>, he was absent.

**MOVED by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Cox that the minutes of March 9, 2011, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **4. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

Additions: 9.1 Membership Update

Move: Item 9.1 to be dealt with first on the agenda.

**MOVED by Mr. MacLaine, seconded by Mr. Scott that the agenda, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE**

**6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE**

**7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS - NONE**

**8. REPORTS**

**8.1 Committee Members**

### **8.1.1 Bedford Visioning**

Mr. Merrick advised that there have been no updates on the Bedford Visioning item and that it may be removed as a regular agenda item. An updated is expected by the Fall of 2012.

### **8.2 Staff Updates**

In an e-mail dated March 24, 2011, Metro Transit staff provided an update on items 8.2.1, 8.2.2, 8.2.3, 8.2.6 and 8.2.7 listed below.

#### **8.2.1 Transit Service Lucasville Road and Area**

Metro Transit staff advised that they are currently analysing the data obtained from the surveys conducted for the Lucasville Road and Hammonds Plains Road area to determine what service options there are as well as a go forward plan.

Mr. Ian MacLaine requested an update from staff on whether the extensive renovations being planned for the Atlantic Playground would expedite bus service along the Hammonds.

#### **8.2.2 Dartmouth Transit Terminal**

Metro Transit staff advised that the funding strategy for the approved Bridge Terminal design option will be dealt with by Regional Council through the 2011 – 12 budget process. If approvals are received, construction is hoped to start in 2011, however; until proper approvals are received, there is no firm start date.

The Committee requested that the Legislative Assistant forward the Regional Council agenda website link to the members in order for them to access recent reports on the Dartmouth Transit Terminal and any upcoming budget information.

#### **8.2.3 Park and Ride at Highway 101 and 103**

Metro Transit staff requested clarification on this request as Highways 101 and 103 do not connect.

The Committee confirmed that the area was the Margesson Drive and Highway 101 interchange in Middle Sackville proposed for spring 2011.

Mr. MacLaine noted that the local MLA Matt Whynot had recently held a public information meeting in regard to the interchange, however; the meeting was not well attended.

#### **8.2.4 Request for Overhead Pedestrian Lights (RA-5) Old Sackville Road/Walker Connector Road**

The Legislative Assistant advised that the North West Community Council, on March 24, 2011, forwarded the North West Transit Advisory Committees report for Overhead Pedestrian (RA-5) lights to staff and to the Honourable Minister Bill Estabrooks, Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal. She then read into the record the January 20, 2011 letter from Minister Estabrook forwarded to the Committee from the Community Council in regard to previous issues raised.

In response to comments raised in the January 20, 2011 letter, the Committee requested the following clarification from HRM Staff: Where does HRM's jurisdiction start/end in regard to the Beaver Bank Connector Road / Old Sackville Road.

A map outlining the areas of provincial/municipal jurisdiction was requested in order for the Committee to reference the appropriate department in regard to future requests.

The Committee requested that a copy of the January 20, 2011 letter be forwarded to them.

#### **8.2.5 Request for Bus Route from Park and Rides along Highway 103 in Tantallon to Hammonds Plains Road to Bedford**

The North West Community Council received the North West Transit Advisory Committee's report on the request for a bus route to service Park and Rides along Highway 103, Tantallon to Hammonds Plains Road to Bedford, and; at their March 24, 2011 meeting, deferred the matter back to the Committee for clarification.

The Committee noted that the request was for better service along the Hammonds Plains Road for the Route 33. Also, the request was for safer places for bus stops along the Hammonds Plains Road and that the stops be consolidated with Park 'n Rides to enable a location for buses to pull off the road and for the commuters to park their vehicles. The service was then requested to continue to the Mill Cove area of Bedford. The request was for Park 'n Rides along the Hammonds Plains Road from Highway 103 at all major subdivision entrances.

The preference of the Committee would be to have a route servicing the Lucasville Road to Hammonds Plains Road to Mill Cove in Bedford and to Dartmouth. A potential route could be from the Sackville Metro Link terminal to Timber Trails on the Lucasville Road to the Atlantic Playground out to the Hammonds Plains Road. .

Discussion ensued in regard to a direct route from Tantallon through Bedford to Dartmouth that would allow for direct connection to Dartmouth from Tantallon. The possibility of running the Route 87 through Bedford to Dartmouth was discussed as there is no route from Bedford to Dartmouth except for the Route 66. Now that more

development has occurred in Dartmouth Common, perhaps the Route 87 could be expanded.

**8.2.6 Request for Information on Metro Transit's On Time Performance Measures**

Metro Transit staff advised that measurement of On Time Performance is one element of the AVL system which is still being refined. There is no schedule adherence data available for review at this time.

**8.2.7 Route 33 Service Request to Pine Tree and Yankee Town Roads**

Metro Transit staff advised that they, along with staff in HRM's Traffic and Right of Way services, are preparing a report for the North West Community Council that will address this matter.

**9. ADDED ITEMS**

**9.1 Membership Update**

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting. See page 3.

**10. NEXT MEETING DATE – May 11, 2011**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Chris Newson  
Legislative Assistant