

**POINT PLEASANT PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**September 9, 2010**

PRESENT: Mr. Duncan Morum, Chair  
Mr. Don Awalt, Vice Chair  
Mr. Phillip Read  
Mr. Harald Norve  
Ms. Lisa Olie  
Mr. Bernard Badley

REGRETS: Councillor Sue Uteck  
Mr. Murray Wilson  
Mr. Chris Crowell  
Ms. Kate Greene  
Mr. Frazer Egerton

STAFF: Mr. Peter Bigelow, Manager of Real Property Planning  
Mr. Brian Phelan, Supervisor of Parks and Open Spaces  
Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor of Major Parks

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:39 p.m. in the Superintendent's Building, Point Pleasant Park, Halifax.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 13, 2010 & Notes of June 10, 2010**

**MOVED BY Mr. Norve, seconded by Mr. Awalt, that the minutes of May 13, 2010 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**MOVED BY Mr. Read, seconded by Mr. Awalt, that the notes of June 10, 2010 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

The Chair requested that the following items be added to Business Arising From the Minutes:

- 4.2 Shilling Ceremony
- 4.3 Volunteers in the Park (VIP) Program

The Chair asked that the following item be added under Staff Updates:

- 4.1.1 Hurricane Earl Update

The Chair requested that the following item be added to the agenda:

- 8.1 Stewart MacMillian Departure

Mr. Bernard Badley suggested that Correspondence, Petitions, and Presentations be moved to the top of the agenda to allow for Mr. John Woodroffe and Family to present prior to the Committee's regular business.

The Committee agreed.

The agenda was accepted as amended.

**6.3.1 Donation – Mr. John Woodroffe**

The Chair introduced Mr. John Woodroffe to the Committee.

Mr. Woodroffe introduced his daughters, Michelle and Stephanie, and his son, Robert.

Mr. Woodroffe proposed a donation to Point Pleasant Park towards restoration or other required maintenance with a portion of the amount allocated towards the purchase of a

bench with a small plaque in honour of his late wife, Ms. Mary Woodroffe. He indicated he was not committed to a specific location for the bench and suggested the plaque read something along the lines of "Sit with us a while and enjoy this beautiful park that we love so much."

Mr. Woodroffe described how he and his wife had spent many years enjoying the park and that it had been a significant part of their lives. He noted that his wife had passed away recently due to breast cancer and had requested to be cremated, therefore there was no place for he and his family to go to pay their respects. Mr. Woodroffe indicated that a bench with a memorial plaque would provide his family with such a place.

Mr. Woodroffe added that he was open to the wording on the plaque being generalized to pay respects to all those affected by breast cancer so long as his wife's name could be included somewhere.

Ms. Stephanie Woodroffe spoke to the Committee about the importance Point Pleasant Park had in the lives of her family while she was growing up and how her mother had often taken the children there. She added that her brother Robert had been married in the Park.

The Chair indicated that he had consulted with staff concerning the process for such requests. He explained that following Hurricane Juan, a plan was developed concerning the future of the Park.

Mr. Peter Bigelow, Manager of Real Property Planning, explained that a moratorium had been placed on memorials and plaques due to the need of replacing them due to damage. He indicated that many parks do allow for the donation of benches but there are costs incurred for maintenance and replacement.

Mr. Woodroffe offered to contribute to those annual costs, however Mr. Bigelow expressed that the amount of the donation was sufficient to offset those expenses. Mr. Woodroffe indicated that the extra money from the initial donation could go towards other projects deemed necessary for improvements to Point Pleasant Park.

Mr. Bigelow noted that staff's recommendation was to accept the donation.

Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor of Major Parks, indicated he had a brochure with standard bench designs and added that he would forward it to Mr. Woodroffe.

**MOVED BY Mr. Badley, seconded by Mr. Read, that the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee accept the donation for a memorial to celebrate the life of Ms. Mary Woodroffe and that Mr. Rice follow up with Mr. Woodroffe in this regard.  
MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Mr. Bigelow clarified that staff was not recommending the termination of the moratorium on brass plaques implemented after Hurricane Juan.

Ms. Lisa Olie suggested that the responsibility of annual maintenance be made clear so that the bench in question does not deteriorate on account of confusion over who is accountable for the costs.

#### **4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

##### **4.1 Staff Updates**

###### **4.1.1 Hurricane Earl**

Mr. Rice indicated that damage from Hurricane Earl was less than what was expected. He reported that fifty to sixty trees were brought down and added that clean up would take a couple of weeks.

Mr. Rice also reported that wood chips were to be spread on a number of paths.

###### **4.1.2 Operations**

Mr. Rice indicated that regular maintenance was ongoing. He explained that treatments were done on select areas to combat invasives and it was anticipated there should not be a problem for two to three years.

Mr. Bigelow indicated that some techniques were working. He explained that covered patches worked in small areas and added that staff were investigating other techniques. He reported that one trial patch was currently being tested in a small area.

###### **4.1.3 Biosolids**

Mr. Phelan reported that staff had experimented with the use of biosolids in the Park. He explained that as the biosolids were covered over, there were no problems with odor.

Mr. Bigelow explained that the treatment was mixed on site and covered over. He added that even with the heat there was no noticeable odor two hours after the mixture was put in place.

Mr. Phelan indicated that a report was being prepared for Council regarding the use of biosolids.

A discussion ensued around the use of biosolids in the Park. It was decided that the Committee would follow Council's lead in the matter unless useage impacted on enjoyment of the Park.

#### **4.1.4 Capital Works**

Mr. Bigelow reported that Ms. Carolle Roberts, Landscape Architect, was now in charge of conservation work on the fortifications. He also indicated that Mr. Roy McBride has been engaged as a consultant and added that Mr. McBride was quite versed in military cultural assets. Mr. Bigelow noted that tenders were slated to go out soon with expectations that work would be done by the end of the fall. He explained that Fort Ogilvie and the Cambridge Battery were included in the tenders as well as the vaults beneath.

Mr. Bigelow noted that Parks Canada desired the return of their Mark V gun and that the Park would receive three cannons in return. He explained that the cannons were of various sizes and would be placed between the Northwest Arm Battery and Fort Ogilvie. He added that they would not be mounted.

Mr. Bigelow indicated that the road work would continue through late fall until freeze up and resume in the spring.

Mr. Bigelow reported that the tender for the parking lots had been awarded and that construction was expected to start on September 16, 2010. He explained that public notification of the closure of the upper parking lot was already on the website and would be posted on-site shortly.

The Chair referenced a letter concerning the hours of the lower parking lot. A discussion ensued around whether the hours of the lower parking lot should be changed during the closure of the upper parking lot. The Committee recommended 10:00 p.m. and requested that staff consult with Councillor Sue Uteck on the matter.

#### **4.1.5 Fish Tanks**

Mr. Bigelow reported that he had spoken with Ms. Nicole May, Landscape Architect, about the fish tanks. He explained that she had items on order for the settlement theme and also that the Mi'kmaq piece was almost complete. He noted that she expected everything would be ready by December.

A discussion ensued around the need to have something inserted in the fish tanks explaining what would be put in place.

#### **4.1.6 Public Notices**

The Chair expressed the need for some sort of signage that explained the work being done in the Park as many users were unsure of what was happening. Mr. Bigelow indicated this could be done.

#### **4.2 Shilling Ceremony**

Mr. Bigelow, indicated that Staff was unsure of how to proceed with regards to the Shilling Ceremony. He noted that the \$5,000 from Special Events was still available however it would disappear after March 31, 2011.

The Chair expressed that the Committee still wanted to move forward with the Ceremony and indicated that the process seemed to be stuck at the stage of issuing a letter of invitation to the Lieutenant-Governor. He explained that a letter had been drafted and forwarded to the Mayor's Office.

A discussion ensued around the protocol of inviting the Lieutenant-Governor and whether dates should be suggested in the letter or whether it was up to the Lieutenant-Governor's office to reply with her availability. It was agreed that the Committee would suggest potential dates for the Lieutenant-Governor's consideration.

Mr. Rice indicated he had located signs from a previous Shilling Ceremony that advertised the Ceremony as taking place on Thursday at 2:30 p.m.

The Committee decided on the second or third Thursday in October as potential dates, with October 14, 2010 being preferred as it coincided with the next meeting of the Committee.

The Chair indicated he would convey this information to the Clerk's Office.

The Chair reported that a suggested guest list had been in development since the beginning of the summer.

#### **4.3 Volunteers in the Park (VIP) Program**

The Chair expressed concern that a number of groups had come forward prior to and during the summer with offers to volunteer their services to the Park and noted that it was now too late to put those groups to use. He suggested that a list of items to be accomplished be prepared so this experience does not repeat itself.

Mr. Bigelow indicated that there was confusion regarding the role of staff and the role of the Committee with respect to the Volunteers in the Park (VIP) Program.

The Chair explained that it was understood that the Committee would recruit volunteers and arrange dates and times. He added that he understood that staff would be responsible for ensuring that the volunteers had what they needed and were aware of their tasks. He described the role of the Committee as being 'front end' which would include recruitment and scheduling.

Mr. Brian Phelan, Supervisor of Parks and Open Spaces, indicated that staff was ready this summer for volunteers and that the confusion stemmed from when a group of



volunteers was put in touch with staff. He added that a coordinating role was necessary and could be the responsibility of the Committee.

The Chair agreed that the roles of staff and the Committee should be clarified. The Committee decided to clarify these roles at the next meeting. The Chair encouraged members of the Committee to bring their ideas forward to the October 14, 2010 meeting.

Ms. Olie left the meeting at 5:07.

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

**6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**6.1 Correspondence – None**

**6.2 Petitions – None**

**6.3 Presentations**

**6.3.1 Donation – Mr. John Woodroffe**

This item was dealt with after Item 3. See page 3.

**7. REPORTS – NONE**

**8. ADDED ITEMS**

**8.1 Appreciation to Mr. Stewart MacMillian**

The Chair suggested expressing gratitude to Mr. Stewart MacMillian, who had recently moved from HRM, for his six years of dedicated work to the Park

**MOVED BY Mr. Read, seconded by Mr. Badley, that a vote of thanks be given to Mr. MacMillan for the six years of dedicated work to Point Pleasant Park, noting that he will be sadly missed, and with best wishes for his future endeavours.  
MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9. NEXT MEETING DATE – October 14, 2010**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

Tylor McDuff  
Legislative Support