POINT PLEASANT PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES October 13, 2011

PRESENT:

Mr. Duncan Morum (Chair) Mr. Don Awalt (Vice Chair)

Mr. Richard Tilley
Ms. Lisa Olie
Mr. Robert Apold
Ms. Nancy Vanstone
Ms. Teresa Piorkowski
Ms. Katrina Leckovic

REGRETS: Mr. Dale Smith

Councillor Sue Uteck

STAFF: Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor, Major Parks

Mr. Brian Phelan, Supervisor of Parks and Open Spaces Mr. Peter Bigelow, Manager of Real Property Planning Mr. Rudy Vodicka, Real Property Policy Coordinator

Ms. Julie Vandervoort, Legislative Support

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - July 14, 2011

MOVED by Mr. Awalt, seconded by Ms. Olie, that the minutes of July 14, 2011 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

The agenda was accepted as presented.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES / STAFF UPDATES

4.1.1 Memorial for the Mi'Kmaq Warrior

Mr. Awalt circulated copies of page 30 of the 2008 draft document "Point Pleasant Park Mi'kmaq Heritage Area Interpretive Plan"; this page includes drawings and a description of a proposed warrior sculpture. Ms. Pam Glode-Desrocher, Executive Director of the Mi'kmaq Friendship Centre, and several Mi'kmaw community representatives were in attendance. A Talking Circle took place, with the passing of an eagle feather.

Mr. Peter Bigelow, Manager of Real Property Planning, clarified the location of the proposed site on the bluffs overlooking Arm Road. He explained that HRM staff, in consultation with the Council of Chiefs, have been working on a number of Mi'kmaw cultural projects, that funds are committed to this sculpture and memorial site, and that a government to government process is being followed.

Mi'kmaw speakers expressed the view that this memorial is for Mi'kmaw across the maritime provinces, that it will bring traditional Mi'kmaw closer to the Park and that the decision-making must connect the type of gatherings that will take place to the site or sites chosen. Speakers emphasized that it was time to act on this proposal and move it forward.

The Chair explained the advisory nature of the Committee. He expressed strong support for the initiative. Committee members agreed, stating that the proposal was important and would be a significant addition to the Park. Members requested the opportunity to review the entire 2008 draft "Point Pleasant Park Mi'kmaq Heritage Area Interpretive Plan" for the next meeting and to continue the discussion. The Chair stated

he would circulate the Interpretive Plan to members. The Committee agreed on a motion and concluded the discussion.

MOVED by Mr. Tilley, seconded by Mr. Awalt, that the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee recommend Peninsula Community Council's consideration that, as a matter of urgency, to push ahead with the Mi'kmaq Warrior's Memorial as a first step to the Point Pleasant Park Mi'kmaq Heritage Area Interpretive Plan. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Mr. Bigelow retired from the meeting at 5:20 p.m. The Mi'kmaw representatives thanked the Committee for the opportunity to speak and retired from the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

4.1.2 Enforcement of By-law A-300 – Respecting Animals and Responsible Pet Ownership

Mr. Brian Phelan, Supervisor of Parks and Open Spaces, explained that, as a result of the recent business unit re-alignment, Animal Control is no longer with Police Services and that Park staff encourage visitors to report incidents as enforcement is complaint-driven. Mr. Phelan stated that the Off-Leash Committee is interdepartmental and that it receives information from animal control and reviews requests for on-leash and off-leash areas.

The Chair noted that the Off-Leash Committee rarely meets. Several Committee members expressed the view that the Park has become primarily a dog park, too many areas are off-leash, there is not regular enforcement and a better balance is needed, especially in picnic areas. The Chair requested a representative from the Off-Leash Committee and a representative from Animal Control attend the November meeting. Mr. Phelan stated that he would convey the request and the Committee's concerns.

4.1.3 Shilling Ceremony

The Chair requested an update from the Clerk's Office on this matter and a confirmation that funds are still available for the ceremony.

4.2 Staff Update

Mr. Rudy Vodicka, Real Property Policy Coordinator, provided an update on federal infrastructure improvements including lighting, bike racks, pathways, tree planting, underground wiring, the Birch Road culvert repair, Martello Tower and Cambridge Battery landscaping and berm protection. He stated that substantial completion of the projects was anticipated by October 31, 2011. He also noted that cultural kiosk

installations were being completed with several narratives already recorded for podcasts.

Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor, Major Parks, provided a brief overview of events in the Park in October and explained how events are listed on the website.

Mr. Tilley stated that he was repeating a request for a metal coyote warning sign at the Chain Road entrance as he had been informed that coyotes have been seen at that location.

- 5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS NONE
- 6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS
- 6.1 Correspondence None
- 6.2 Petitions None
- 6.3 Presentations None
- 7. REPORTS NONE
- 8. ADDED ITEMS NONE
- 9. NEXT MEETING DATE November 10, 2011
- 10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Julie Vandervoort Legislative Assistant