



**POINT PLEASANT PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
May 5, 2016**

PRESENT: Mr. Duncan Morum, Chair
Ms. Helen Sinclair, Vice Chair
Ms. Ann Boswick
Ms. Paula Minnikin
Ms. Karen Ross
Mr. Malcolm Norton

REGRETS: Ms. Dawn Vickers
Councillor Wayne Mason
Mr. Timothy Boudreau

STAFF: Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor, Major Parks
Ms. Cailin MacDonald, Legislative Support
Mr. Michael Gillett, Senior Event Coordinator
Mr. Brad Anguish, Director, Parks and Recreation
Mr. Ray Walsh, Parks Manager, Parks and Recreation

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/pppac/160505pppac-agenda.php>.

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 p.m., and adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 3, 2016

MOVED by Mr. Norton, seconded by Ms. Boswick

THAT the minutes of March 3, 2016 be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

MOVED by Mr. Norton, seconded by Ms. Ross

THAT the following items be added to the Committee's agenda:

- 7.1 Correspondence from Ms. Lynn McCallum and Ms. Madeline Crowell**
- 10.1 Presentation by Mr. Brad Anguish, Director, and Mr. Ray Walsh, Parks Manager, Parks and Recreation, regarding Segway Access to Point Pleasant Park**
- 10.2 Young Avenue discussion**

Two-third majority vote required.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The agenda was approved as amended. The Committee also agreed to begin with item 10.1, staff presentation regarding Segway Access to Point Pleasant Park.

10. ADDED ITEMS

10.1 Presentation by Mr. Brad Anguish, Director, and Mr. Ray Walsh, Parks Manager, Parks and Recreation, regarding Segway Access to Point Pleasant Park

The Chair invited Mr. Brad Anguish, Director, and Mr. Ray Walsh, Parks Manager, Parks and Recreation to present to the Committee.

Mr. Anguish commented that staff is seeking input from the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee on a request by Max Rastelli, Owner of Segway Nova Scotia, for permanent access to all major trails, not including hiking trails, in Point Pleasant Park for Segways as well as access during weekends and holidays.

Mr. Anguish provided information on the existing municipal By-laws related to Segways in the Park as well as the newly enacted provincial legislation. He also reviewed key facts related to personal transporters (Segways).

Mr. Anguish shared that the municipality previously supported a Segway pilot project on two occasions allowing Segway tours originating from the Halifax Waterfront to travel through the park on weekends through a predetermined route. He shared findings from the final report citing that an estimated 1000 Segway riders passed through Point Pleasant Park, with no incident and with no formal complaints issued by other users of the Park.

Mr. Anguish commented on the use of personal transporters on weekends and holidays. He commented that bicycles are not currently permitted in the Park on weekends and holidays and that on December 16, 2015 Halifax and West Community Council passed a motion requesting a staff report examining the possibility of weekend bicycle access, noting the report is anticipated to be tabled in the coming months.

Mr. Anguish commented that since the staff report has not yet been tabled, staff are proposing to allow Segway Nova Scotia tours in the Park, weekdays only, on a permanent basis with conditions and following the same route as the pilot project. He also encouraged the Committee to provide feedback or concerns on this project at any time.

Mr. Anguish commented that the municipality will at some point be reviewing access and use of Segways in parks on a broader scale throughout the region.

Ms. Sinclair asked for clarification on the term permanent. Mr. Anguish clarified that staff would not come back to the Committee each year to review this proposal and that the municipality retains the right to revoke Segway access to the Park at any time.

Ms. Boswick asked for clarification regarding insurance of Segways. Mr. Anguish clarified that for Segways, similar to a bicycle; individuals do not require personal insurance. Mr. Rastelli added that his company has five million dollars in liability insurance and commented that individuals do not require their own insurance under provincial legislation.

Ms. Boswick asked whether Mr. Rastelli's company has exclusive access. Mr. Anguish responded that his company does not retain exclusive access to the Park. Ms. Boswick shared her concerns with complaints being forwarded to Mr. Rastelli for response as it promotes self-regulation. Mr. Anguish clarified that complaints are still logged through 3-1-1 and that responsibility falls to Mr. Rastelli to address and rectify any complaints.

Ms. Minnikin asked whether remuneration was coming back to the city. Mr. Anguish responded that there was not any remuneration.

Ms. Boswick asked how the industry is being regulated. Mr. Rastelli responded that as an operator, they ensure riders are not under the influence and that it is regulated the same as bicycles.

The Chair asked whether other municipal parks allow Segways. Mr. Anguish responded that Point Pleasant Park is currently the only municipal park.

The Chair presented Ms. Vickers comments shared via email supporting this project.

Ms. Minnikin commented on the opportunity for Segway Nova Scotia to provide future support to Park activities and initiatives.

The Committee expressed support for continuing the project and the Chair thanked Mr. Anguish for his presentation.

- 4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE**
- 5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**
- 6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**

- 7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

- 7.1 Correspondence**

Correspondence from Ms. Lynn McCallum and Ms. Madeline Crowell was circulated to all members of the Committee and was noted by the Committee as being received.

As the correspondence related to encounters with dogs in the Park, the Chair asked Mr. Anguish to share how the municipality manages this issue in parks throughout the municipality. Mr. Anguish shared that with densification on the peninsula and in other areas, there has been a greater need to provide places for dogs. He commented that staff has introduced various strategies to help mitigate incidents including fenced dog parks and park patrol.

Ms. Boswick asked how bicycle incidents should be reported. Mr. Anguish encouraged the public to call 3-1-1 as those incidents are recorded and rerouted for appropriate responses.

Mr. Anguish shared with the Committee that staff are working to get a comprehensive plan for Point Pleasant Park to Halifax and West Community Council by its May meeting and plan to have it reviewed by the Committee for feedback shortly thereafter.

The Chair thanked Mr. Anguish for attending.

7.2 Petitions – NONE

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Update from Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor of Major Parks West

This matter was dealt with following 9.1.4, see pages 5-6 for details.

9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

9.2.1 Shilling Ceremony

The Chair shared that Ms. Anastasia Smallwood resigned from the Committee. He also shared Ms. Vickers email comments to provide assistance to this event.

The Chair commented that next steps involve coordinating the Mayor and the Lieutenant Governor schedules to select a date in September to hold the ceremony.

Mr. Mike Gillette, Senior Events Coordinator, commented that in years past staff have provided support for this event. He offered staff assistance to provide chairs, coffee, AV, tents as well as advice on the event scenario.

Ms. Boswick offered to contact the office of the Mayor and of Lieutenant Governor to coordinate schedules. Ms. Ross offered to help with this event. She will contact the district commissioner of Girl Guides Canada to see whether they would like to participate. The Committee discussed the inclusion of pipers in the ceremony. Ms. Boswick commented that she would work towards Saturday, September 24 as the ceremony date.

9.2.2 PPP Comprehensive Long Term Plan and By-law Review

The Chair commented that the Committee had already heard from Mr. Anguish on Point Pleasant Park Comprehensive Long Term Plan and By-law Review.

9.2.3 Communications

Ms. Minnikin and Mr. Boudreau recruited six volunteers to give biodiversity tours to groups attending the May long-weekend event to help change the tone to a park education weekend. Mr. Rice commented that

the communications activities will now rollout over the spring and summer months rather than strictly during the May long weekend. Ms. Minnikin offered to coordinate new dates and times with the volunteers. Ms. Minnikin also suggested that staff reach out to the astronomical society to partner in Park initiatives.

Ms. Ross departed the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

9.2.4 Yearly Priorities

The Chair asked whether Committee members had any additional priorities to discuss.

Ms. Boswick commented that she feels as a city there should be greater emphasis on preserving the character, respecting the heritage and beautifying the city. She cited Citadel Hill, the waterfront and Young Avenue as examples of areas which are being poorly preserved. Ms. Minnikin echoed Ms. Boswick's comments and suggested the language shaping the future and preserving our heritage. Within the Park, Ms. Minnikin cited the Glasgow light towers as an example as they were moved to a less prominent location. Ms. Boswick shared concerns with legislative changes which relinquished control of properties throughout the city.

The Chair commented that within the Park, Ms. Boswick will help address concerns related to preserving the character and shaping the future of the Park. The Chair suggested that Ms. Boswick engage with the stewardship of the Point Pleasant Park Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Boswick and Mr. Norton agreed to undertake this project as a sub-committee.

9.1.1 Update from Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor of Major Parks West

Mr. Rice provided an update on the Point Pleasant Park Comprehensive Plan Review and shared that Mr. Anguish will be presenting the plan to Halifax and West Community Council. Ms. Minnikin suggested that Mr. Norton or Ms. Boswick attend the Community Council meeting.

Mr. Rice commented that the website has been down and that as part of the comprehensive plan review all of the content will be migrated to the halifax.ca site. Ms. Minnikin commented that she would appreciate being part of the review process on behalf of the Committee. Mr. Rice responded that he would reach out to Mr. Bruce DeBaie, Director of Corporate Communications to help facilitate.

Mr. Rice shared concerns related to vehicles in the lower parking lot on Sunday evenings. He commented that in the coming weeks there would be an increased police presence to help mitigate any issues and address any concerns related to the accessibility of the Life Flight. The Committee continued to discuss ways to address vehicle and noise concerns.

Ms. Sinclair expressed concerns about maintenance of the Park including painting of the gazebos and the need to address crumbling stonewalls.

Ms. Sinclair asked whether the Committee may receive meeting minutes earlier in the schedule. Ms. Cailin MacDonald, Legislative Support, responded that she will notify the Clerk's Office to see whether a change in process may be accommodated.

10. ADDED ITEMS

10.1 Presentation by Mr. Brad Anguish, Director, and Mr. Ray Walsh, Parks Manager, Parks and Recreation, regarding Segway Access to Point Pleasant Park

This matter was dealt with earlier in the meeting, see pages 2-3 for details.

10.2 Young Avenue Discussion

Ms. Boswick commented that Young Avenue was designed to be the grand boulevard and formed the main entrance to the Park. She continued to share the history of Young Avenue related to the Park. Ms. Boswick commented that she would like to write a letter of recommendation or concern to protect Young Avenue.

MOVED by Ms. Minnikin, seconded by Mr. Norton

THAT the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee draft and send to the city a letter outlining the importance of preserving the character and the original intent of Point Pleasant Park and the approaches to the Park. For the purposes of this meeting the author of this letter will be Ms. Boswick she will circulate a draft of the letter to the Committee no later than end of business, Monday, May 9. The Committee will have 24 hours to review the draft letter and provide feedback. Members who have not provided their input by end of business day Tuesday, May 10, will be deemed to have consented to the contents of the letter. Ms. Boswick will incorporate the Committee's feedback as desired and send a final version of the letter to Mr. Morum by end of business, Wednesday, May 11. Mr. Morum will send the final letter to the municipality's A/CAO, Mr. Brad Anguish and any media outlets that the Committee deem appropriate.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Upon review by the Deputy Municipal Clerk, the motion was determined to be out of order.

- 11. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE**
- 12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Thursday, July 7, 2016**
- 13. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Cailin MacDonald
Legislative Support