



**POINT PLEASANT PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
November 5, 2015**

PRESENT: Mr. Duncan Morum, Chair
Ms. Helen Sinclair, Vice Chair
Councillor Wayne Mason
Mr. Timothy Boudreau
Ms. Anastasia Smallwood

REGRETS: Mr. Malcolm Norton
Ms. Janice Cunningham

STAFF: Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor, Major Parks West
Ms. Phoebe Rai, Legislative Assistant

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: www.halifax.ca/boardscom/pppac/index.php

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. and adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

The Legislative Assistant noted that there was one new Committee member present at the meeting and that the Clerk's Office was currently recruiting for other vacancies on the Committee. She outlined procedures for Committee meetings citing Administrative Order One and the Public Appointments Policy.

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

The Chair turned over the meeting to the Legislative Assistant.

The Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Ms. Sinclair, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT Mr. Morum be nominated Chair of the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee.

The Legislative Assistant called three times for any further nominations and, hearing no further nominations, called for the vote on Mr. Morum's nomination.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

It was then MOVED by Mr. Morum, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT Ms. Sinclair be nominated Vice-Chair of the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee.

The Legislative Assistant called three times for any further nominations and, hearing no further nominations, called for the vote on Ms. Sinclair's nomination.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 3, 2015

MOVED by Ms. Sinclair, seconded by Mr. Boudreau

THAT the minutes of September 3, 2015 be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Ms. Smallwood

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

Councillor Mason requested an update on the matter of the Mi'kmaq Warrior Memorial.

The Chair advised that at a previous meeting, the Committee had learned that there was a question regarding funding for the project, and that discussion regarding a possible memorial would continue through the Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn (KMK), also known as Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative. Once these discussions conclude, he noted, the matter could return to the Committee for consideration.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS

5.1 Weekend Bicycle Access – Councillor Mason

The following was before the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee:

- A Request for Committee Consideration form submitted by Councillor Mason

At the September 3, 2015 meeting of the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee, it was MOVED by Mr. Norton, seconded by Mr. Boudreau

THAT the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee recommend that Halifax and West Community Council request a staff report to examine the possibility of weekend bicycle access to Point Pleasant Park and to discuss the matter with the Active Transportation Advisory Committee.

The Chair noted that during the previous discussion, the Committee agreed to defer consideration of the motion until such time that Councillor Mason could be present to speak to the matter.

Councillor Mason indicated that he had received feedback from residents expressing confusion regarding the lack of weekend cycling access to Point Pleasant Park, considering that cycling is permitted on weekdays. He urged the Committee to approve the motion for a staff report, so that additional information can be brought forward to assess the implications of such a policy.

A brief discussion ensued, with Committee members commenting that there are a number of bicycle lanes and proposed bikeways that terminate at the Park, so it would be prudent to examine the advisability of providing weekend access to cyclists in order to continue the Active Transportation network. The Committee expressed concern that with a higher density of park users on the weekend, providing bicycle access could present a safety issue to other park users.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Ms. Sinclair

THAT the report include the following considerations:

- **a public engagement plan targeting park users and the cycling community,**
- **identification of appropriate paths for shared use (if any) and feasibility of maintaining those paths,**
- **safety, speed, and enforcement issues, and**
- **financial considerations for implementation and ongoing maintenance.**

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.

AMENDED MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

6.1 Correspondence from Peter McCurdy re: Concerns regarding heavy gauge gravel and washrooms

The following was before the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee:

- Correspondence dated September 29 and October 24, 2015 from Peter McCurdy

Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor Major Parks West provided commentary with respect to the use of gravel in the park. He informed the Committee that there had been some pavement in the Park that started to break apart and now forms a loose surface, which will be remedied.

Mr. Rice described the options for gravel as a spectrum from large rocks to fine crusher dust, and he indicated that the best product was compactable class "A" gravel which is a mix of both. He advised that staff will be using class A gravel to address problem areas in the park, though crusher dust will continue to be used for ice control.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the state of park washrooms. Mr. Rice noted that there are only two park washrooms that are serviced year-round. He advised that some of the washrooms are only suitable for use in the summer, and that staff had responded to a request from the public for a washroom near the Tower Road entrance by placing a portable facility there. Mr. Rice suggested that if park users encounter an issue with the facilities, that they file a complaint with 311.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Ms. Sinclair

THAT the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee direct the Chair to respond to Mr. McCurdy regarding his concerns.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

7.1 STAFF

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

Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor of Major Parks, provided an update on park activities.

In response to a question from Ms. Sinclair, Mr. Rice indicated that there is a signage procedure to be followed for any replaced or new signs. He commented that there is a new template for park signs which will eventually be placed in Point Pleasant Park to be consistent with the new signage in Hemlock Ravine Park.

Ms. Sinclair urged staff to ensure that signs are displayed in such a way that all users must pass by important signage to enter the park.

Mr. Rice noted that with winter approaching, staff were preparing for winter operations. He indicated that garbage removal will be a priority, and outlined the snow removal strategy for the park.

Councillor Mason suggested that parks should have clear standards for snow removal similar to roads. Mr. Rice responded that staff has been directed to clarify standards for the park, which will be posted on the park website in the very near future.

Mr. Rice concluded his update by noting that several hundred attendees are expected to attend the Remembrance Day ceremony held in the park.

Ms. Sinclair expressed concern that there could be conflict between attendees and vehicles in the park.

Committee members inquired whether there would be signage to advise park users that there will be cars accessing the park and temporary signage to regulate speed. Mr. Rice responded that the federal government makes arrangements for the event, but that he would look into possible additional signage.

7.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Roundtable introductions were made.

7.2.1 Shilling Ceremony

Ms. Sinclair indicated that funds would need to be raised for a shilling ceremony. Councillor Mason expressed concern regarding fundraising, noting that this was outside of the mandate of the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee.

A brief discussion ensued with Committee members suggesting that a list of invitees be updated and the offices of the Lieutenant Governor and the Mayor be consulted to schedule the date. It was suggested that the ceremony be held on September 10, 2016, to be confirmed at the March Committee meeting.

The Chair requested that the Legislative Assistant locate the ceremonial shilling at City Hall.

7.2.2 PPP Comprehensive Long Term Plan and By-law Review

The Chair noted that the Committee had requested an update on the process to be provided at a future meeting.

7.2.3 Off Leash

Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor of Major Parks noted that there is an off leash report being prepared for the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee.

Councillor Mason confirmed the Committee would be considering the report at their next meeting and that he could provide an update at the next meeting.

7.2.4 Communications

The Chair indicated there was no update on this item.

7.2.5 Yearly Priorities

The Chair invited members to consider any priorities they would like to propose for the 2016 agenda.

8. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

9. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

10.1 Proposed 2016 Meeting Schedule

The Committee determined to accept the proposed 2016 Meeting Schedule.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Phoebe Rai
Legislative Assistant