



**HARBOUR EAST-MARINE DRIVE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
July 30, 2015**

PRESENT: Councillor Gloria McCluskey, Chair
Councillor Bill Karsten, Vice Chair
Deputy Mayor Lorelei Nicoll
Councillor David Hendsbee
Councillor Darren Fisher

STAFF: Ms. E. Roxanne MacLaurin, Senior Solicitor
Ms. Jennifer Weagle, Legislative Assistant
Ms. Cathy Collett, Legislative Support

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

The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to Community Council are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/Commcoun/east/index.php>

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m., the Community Council moved into an In Camera session at 6:41 and reconvened to the public session at 6:55 p.m. The Community Council adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:02 in the Nantucket Room, Sportsplex, 110 Wyse Road, Dartmouth.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None

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

Deletion:

- 11.1 MOTION - Councillor Fisher
“That Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council request a staff report on investigating possible limitations in the number of group homes in one neighbourhood or one street in a cluster.”

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Karsten,

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

A two-third majority was required.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

5. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

8. HEARINGS

8.1 PUBLIC HEARINGS

8.1.1 Case 19864 – HRM-initiated application to amend the Dartmouth Land Use By-law to clarify the number of residential buildings permitted on a lot

The following was before Community Council:

- A staff recommendation report dated May 15, 2015

Mr. Mitch Dickey, Planner, Development Approvals, presented Case 19864, an HRM-initiated application to amend the Dartmouth Land Use By-law to clarify the number of residential buildings permitted on a lot.

Mr. Dickey provided an overview of the proposed amendments. He noted that the intent of the existing by-law would not be changed, rather the wording would be changed to clarify that “there shall be no more than one dwelling per lot in any zone excepting that more than one mobile dwelling per lot is permitted in a T (Mobile Home Park) Zone.”

Councillor Hendsbee questioned how the amendment would affect in-law suites. Mr. Dickey responded that the staff recommendation does not add any new restrictions.

The Chair opened the public hearing and invited those who wished to speak to come forward.

Ms. Trish McIntyre, Dartmouth, commented that she considers the subject from a spiritual perspective and questioned how staff has taken in to account the people in HRM who are experiencing houselessness?

Staff responded that HRM is currently developing a housing strategy with the United Way and Habitat for Humanity and that the by-law amendment does not add any new restrictions.

Ms. Wanda Lee Collicutt, Dartmouth, questioned what affect the by-law amendment would have on rooming houses.

Staff replied that the Land-Use By-law does permit rooming houses in a number of zones in Dartmouth. In such cases the lodging house is considered the dwelling and the rooms are considered units. As mentioned before, the amendment puts no further restrictions in place.

The Chair called three times for any further speakers. Hearing none, it was MOVED by Councillor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Fisher,

THAT the public hearing close.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Councillor Fisher seconded by Councillor Karsten,

THAT Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council approve proposed amendments to the Land Use By-law for Dartmouth, as contained in Attachment A of the report dated May 15, 2015.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8.2 VARIANCE APPEAL HEARINGS - None

9. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

9.1 Correspondence

9.1.1 Title

9.2 Petitions

9.2.1 Councillor McCluskey on behalf of We Love Dartmouth

A petition was submitted by Councillor McCluskey on behalf of the We Love Dartmouth group in support of maintaining the name Dartmouth on municipal signage in Dartmouth, containing approximately 2500 signatures.

9.3 Presentation

9.3.1 Halifax District RCMP: Policing Priorities and Issues – Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council Area

The following was before Community Council:

- 2014 Year in Review: “H” Division Nova Scotia RCMP

Chief Superintendent Wells reviewed a booklet entitled “2014 Year in Review: “H” Division, Nova Scotia, RCMP”. The booklet was distributed to the members of the public in attendance. He explained that the RCMP polices a large portion of the Municipality. This past year they have utilized a model called the “comstat” model in which analysts decipher information and dispatch officers based on that analysis. He emphasized that, because of this model, it is important for citizens to call RCMP as well as their Councillor when they have concerns so that accurate data can be compiled and analyzed around policing issues.

Referencing the booklet, Chief Superintendent Wells outlined the Provincial Policing Priorities: Crime Reduction, Road Safety, and Cybercrime.

- Crime Reduction – As part of this initiative, the RCMP are taking measures to prevent and reduce youth involvement in crime as both victims and offenders. Currently they are using the Hybrid Hub, a youth intervention and diversion model that was developed in Nova Scotia and brings together social workers and community services to discuss youth at risk.
- Road Safety – The RCMP previously relied on zone policing, but recently have switched a GPS tracking of high-incident areas. Mapping GPS coordinates gives more information and the RCMP have just finished a series of maps on impaired and dangerous driving.
- Cybercrime – This is currently a huge issue, in part because victims of cyber-crime are too embarrassed to come forward. Chief Superintendent Wells encouraged citizens to come forward and the RCMP staff trained in this subject can help to keep citizen’s identities protected.

The Chair thanked Supt. Wells for attending.

9.3.2 Presentation of Halifax Regional Police Strategic Plan 2015-2025

The following was before Community Council:

- Halifax Regional Police Strategic Plan 2015-2025

Chief Blais of the Halifax Regional Police provided and reviewed a booklet entitled the “Halifax Regional Police Strategic Plan 2015-2025” and echoed many of the pertinent comments of Chief Superintendent Wells. He emphasized that policing has changed and officers cannot arrest their way out of a problem. He discussed the strategic plan for the next 10 years. Referencing the booklet, he emphasized the redefined mission, vision and strategic impact of the Halifax Regional Police. He acknowledged the lack of trust for police in the United States and explained that the major differences between reactions towards police in the two countries is in part due to the amount of firearms in the U.S., but perhaps even more so due the lack of civilian oversight. He commented that the HRP will work on maintaining trust with the citizens of HRM and he believes policing to be a system of problem solving through human interactions, with police officers acting as community contributors.

The Chair thanked Chief Blais for attending.

10. REPORTS

10.1 STAFF

10.1.1 Request to Amend the Dartmouth Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law Addressing the Kuhn Road Area (*First Reading/Schedule Joint Public Hearing*)

The following was before Community Council:

- *A staff recommendation/information report dated July 21, 2015*

MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nicoll,

THAT Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Give First Reading to consider the proposed amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) and Land Use By-Law (LUB) for Dartmouth as set forth in Attachment A of the report dated July 21, 2015; and
2. Set the date for a Public Hearing to consider the amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) and Land Use By-Law (LUB) for Dartmouth as set forth in Attachment A of the report dated July 21, 2015.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.2 Case 19637: Supplementary Report - Discharge of Development Agreement 613 Highway #7, Westphal

The following was before Community Council:

- A staff recommendation/information report dated July 7, 2015.

Councillor Hendsbee asked if the Motion was repetitive. Staff answered that this is because it is designed to correct a typographical error in the original discharge agreement.

MOVED by Councillor Deputy Mayor Nicoll seconded by Councillor Karsten,

THAT Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council:

1. Rescind the motion January 8, 2015, discharging the development agreement applied to 613 Highway #7, Westphal, as referenced in the staff report dated December 2, 2014;
2. Approve, by resolution, the discharge agreement as contained in Attachment A of the report dated July 7, 2015, to allow for the discharge of the development agreement applied to 614 Highway #7, Westphal; and
3. Require the discharge agreement be signed by the property owner within 120 days, or any extension thereof, granted by Council request of the property owner, from the date of final approval by Council and any other bodies a necessary, including applicable appeal periods, whichever is later, otherwise this approval will be void and obligations arising hereunder shall be at an end.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.2 Board and Committee Reports – None

11. MOTIONS

11.1 Councillor Fisher

“That Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council request a staff report on investigating possible limitations in the number of group homes in one neighbourhood or one street in a cluster.”

This item was deleted from the agenda during the approval of the order of business. See page 2.

12. IN CAMERA

Community Council rose to go into a private In Camera session, in accordance with Section 19 of the Halifax Regional Municipality Charter, for the purpose of dealing with the following:

12.1 Personnel Matter

Citizen and Councillor appointments to boards and committees in keeping with the Public Appointment Policy adopted by Regional Council in August 2011, to be found at <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/documents/Citizenrecruitmentpolicy.pdf>

12.1.1 Citizen Nominations to Boards and Committees – Private and Confidential report

Community Council recessed to move to an In Camera session at 6:41 p.m. and reconvened in public at 6:55 p.m.

The following motion was ratified in public:

MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee,

THAT Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council proceed to appoint:

- 1. One citizen members to the Shubenacadie Canal Commission;**
- 2. That the citizen appointment be released to the public following ratification and notification of the successful candidate. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

13. ADDED ITEMS - None

14. NOTICES OF MOTION - None

15. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Patrick Stubbart, Port Wallis, commented that he has lived in Dartmouth his whole life and loves it here. However, recently he has been having problems with the neighbouring off-leash dog park. In the past, there had been a petition to the former mayor asking that several parks not to be considered for off-leash areas and that this petition included Shubie Park, Long Lake, and several others. The main issue with having the off-leash dog park in his back yard is the incessant dog barking. Mr. Stubbart emphasized that he is not against having dogs in the park, just against having a constant chorus of dogs barking in his back yard. He concluded by mentioning that he knows of a Second-World War Veteran in his neighbourhood who is scared of being knocked over in the park by a dog from the off-leash dog park and added that part of the park is on provincial crown land.

Deputy Mayor Nicoll left the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Warren Wesson, Renford Street, Woodside, began by thanking the Community Council for putting up the Dartmouth flags at Alderney gate and commented that this was a considerate and gracious gesture. He referenced the study that sought public opinion on the HRM branding project and emphasized that 64% of citizens who were asked rejected it outright. He questioned what the reason was for spending a lot of money on an extensive study that ignored Dartmouth. He expressed concern that while the media said the rebranding project was for tourism and business, the room that the Community Council meeting was being held in was distinctly a Dartmouth room and nowhere in the room did it say Dartmouth. Mr. Wesson concluded that he would like to turn the clock back on the rebranding exercise and have the signs that are not replaced yet, stay not replaced.

Mr. Scott Anderson, representative of the group We Love Dartmouth, began by stating that he understood that the original plan of the exercise was to develop a brand for the HRM, and for the most part he and the group he represents do not have a problem with that. He commented that when Halifax replaced the legal chartered name on signs in Burnside and Sullivan's Pond, and Metro Transit became Halifax Transit, they feel this crossed the line. Mr. Anderson explained that HRM is far more than the former city of Halifax and the diversity of the municipality should be celebrated. The new Halifax logo subordinates the majority of the municipality to a minority of the city, the former city of Halifax, and the focus on downtown Halifax as opposed to downtown Dartmouth or Sackville or Bedford is obvious. Mr. Anderson expressed concern that the current signage suggests that Sullivan's Pond and Burnside Industrial Park are in the city of Halifax. Earlier this year the Community Council received a petition asking Council to

restore the name Dartmouth and Mr. Anderson asks that HRM, as part of this restoration, replace "Halifax" with HRM on vehicles and signs.

Ms. Charlotte Hutchinson, Dartmouth, handed out folders containing three hand-outs: the "Keep the Dartmouth in Dartmouth" mission statement, a copy of her own essay "I Love Halifax, but..." and an information sheet entitled "Are You Aware?" Ms. Hutchinson then spoke on behalf of Wanda Lee Collicutt, Dartmouth, and read the mission statement of the Keep the Dartmouth in Dartmouth group. The statement demanded that HRM Council stop the using the Halifax Logo within the Dartmouth area on public signs or landmarks such as the Dartmouth waterfront flagpoles, busses and ferries. She questioned how the Regional Council can reflect the regions they represent if they do not use the legal name of that region. Ms. Hutchinson then read her own essay entitled "I love Halifax, but...". The essay outlined what she loves about Dartmouth and concluded by explaining how she feels "bullied into being Halifax", a copy of which was provided to the Clerk.

Mr. Roland Morrison, Dartmouth, began by explaining that the name Halifax Regional Municipality was chosen at amalgamation to include all the communities it represented. A vote was held and the majority wanted to keep HRM because it was more inclusive. The survey showed that HRM was preferred over any other name. The rebranding program is for marketing and yet HRM is replaced in all places except legal documents. The region has become Halifax and no budget line for the changes have been made public. This change is not needed for national and international marketing and it is up to the concerned citizens to stir the Council to action.

Ms. Cathy McKettan, Woodlawn, began by informing the Community Council that she is the Regional Coordinator for the Special Olympics of Dartmouth. She commented that Cole Harbour, Nova Scotia is an internationally recognized community known for its renowned athletes and that it is insensitive to rebrand Cole Harbour or Dartmouth or any community with its own identity.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Thursday, September 10, 2015, 6:00 p.m., Nantucket Room, Dartmouth Sportsplex, 110 Wyse Road, Dartmouth

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.