

PENINSULA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES

October 3, 2011

PRESENT: Councillor Dawn Sloane, Chair
Councillor Jennifer Watts, Vice Chair
Councillor Jerry Blumenthal
Councillor Sue Uteck

STAFF: Ms. Karen Brown, Senior Solicitor
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Uteck that the minutes of September 12, 2011 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- 12.1 Heat Pumps – Land Use Bylaw (Councillor Uteck)
- 12.2 Aliant Cell Tower – Halifax Water Commission (Councillor Blumenthal)

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Watts that the agenda as amended be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

4.1 Business Arising: None

4.2 Status Sheet: None

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 16823: Development Agreement, 3089 Gottingen Street, Caribbean Twist

First Reading of this matter was given at the September 12, 2011 meeting of Peninsula Community Council.

A staff report dated August 25, 2011 was before Community Council for consideration.

E-mail correspondence was submitted from Bill and Jane Hughes.

Mr. Richard Harvey, Senior Planner, presented the staff report outlining the application by Hanna John Toulany for a development agreement to allow a restaurant use at 3089 Gottingen Street, at the corner of Kaye Street, in Halifax.

Mr. Harvey responded to questions.

The Chair outlined the Rules of Procedure for public hearings.

The Chair called three times for anyone wishing to speak on this matter; there being none, it was **MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Watts that the public hearing close.**

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Watts that Peninsula Community Council:

- 1. Approve the proposed development agreement to permit a change to a non-confirming use at 3089 Gottingen Street, Halifax as contained in Attachment A of the August 25, 2011 staff report;**
- 2. Require the Agreement be signed by the property owner within 120 days, or any extension thereof granted by Council on request of the property owner, from the date of final approval by Council and any other bodies as 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.

8.2 Variance Appeal Hearings: None

9. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

9.1 Correspondence: None

9.2 Petitions: None

9.3 Presentations:

9.3.1 Legacy Centre – Anthony Black

Mr. Anthony Black provided a presentation on the Legacy Centre for the Performing Arts Society, which is comprised of eight of Halifax's leading dance and theatre companies with the objective of developing a centre for the creation, presentation and celebration of contemporary performing arts in Halifax.

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Watts that the presentation be forwarded to staff to be included as part of the review of the Cultural Plan. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.3.2 Marked Crosswalks/Signal Lights at Barrington/Young Devonshire

Ms. Dawn MacFarlane, Executive Director, Wee Care Developmental Centre provided a presentation on crosswalk issues facing her Centre, other child care centres, families and businesses in the North End of Halifax. Her presentation concluded with a request for a crosswalk on Barrington Street at Young Street to enable pedestrians to access the bus stop, and for a crosswalk light on Young Street at Devonshire Avenue. A copy of her presentation was submitted for the official file.

Councillor Blumenthal advised that he has been asking staff for many years to address this situation but has been told that Barrington Street is too busy. He noted that there is the possibility of a new apartment building in the area of Devonshire at Young, and therefore this is the appropriate time to get staff to reconsider this matter.

Councillor Uteck suggested that Community Council request a status of all the sidewalk requests and crossing requests through Peninsula Halifax. She noted that with the daycares centres in the area and with proposed development this request seems to have some urgency to it.

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Uteck that the presentation be forwarded to staff with a request for report back on the status of sidewalk and crosswalk requests in Peninsula Halifax. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Mr. Paul Talbot addressed Community Council and advised that he has been a resident of the North End of the City for the past 14 years and was President of the North End Urban Tenants' Association, and Co-Chair of the North End Community Circle. Mr. Talbot provided a presentation in regard to his request for two lighted crosswalks at the intersection of Young and Barrington Street and Devonshire Avenue and Young Street. Mr. Talbot submitted his presentation and copies of letters in support of his request.

Councillor Watts noted that a petition in regard to this matter was submitted to Regional Council in August but nothing has come back from staff. She suggested that Community Council send a note to staff requesting an update on the petition. Councillor Watts also added that it would be helpful if staff looked into the pedestrian counts, and the number of vehicle collisions in the area, and if there are any proposed developments for the area. Councillor Watts advised that this information should come back to Community Council prior to its November meeting.

10. REPORTS

10.1 Staff: None

10.2 Committee Reports: None

10.3 Members of Peninsula Community Council:
10.3.1 Peninsula Street Sweeping Program – Councillor Watts

Councillor Watts advised that in the spring she met with staff regarding the street cleaning program and at that time she was under the impression that they were considering different models and that maybe a trial program was to take place however, staff never followed up with her. Councillor Watts added that she has heard that staff have gone back to night time cleaning, but it is taking place on nights that are not indicated on the signage. Also, she received complaints that even though there were nights that there was no street sweeping, cars were still being ticketed.

Councillor Sloane also advised that she received a number of complaints about the lack of street sweeping in her district during the summer.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Blumenthal that staff provide a presentation and report at Community Council’s November 14, 2011 meeting. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.3.2 Street Signs in the Westmount Subdivision – Councillor Watts

Councillor Watts advised that two years ago she received letters from students working on a class project pertaining to poppy decal on street signs, and she tried to pursue the matter with staff but was advised that a more formal request from Community Council would be required.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Blumenthal that staff consider and report back on permitting poppy decals or sign modification that allows for the poppy image to be incorporated into the street signs for the Westmount Subdivision. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.3.3 Bayers Road Widening – Update – Councillor Watts

Councillor Watts provided a brief verbal update on the issue of the Bayers Road widening, and she thanked all those who attended the recent public information meeting.

11. MOTIONS: None

12. ADDED ITEMS

12.1 Heat Pumps – Land Use Bylaw (Councillor Uteck)

Councillor Uteck advised that as more individuals are choosing heat pumps as a method of energy it has become clear that the Land Use By-law does not regulate where these units are to be sited so as not to disturb the peace and enjoyment of one’s

property. She added that she would like staff to review the issue and appropriateness of regulating them within the Land Use By-law.

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Watts that staff provide a report on the issue of regulating heat pumps in the Land Use By-law. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 Aliant Cell Tower – Councillor Blumenthal

For information purposes, Councillor Blumenthal advised of a proposal by Aliant to erect a 30 foot tower on top of lands owned by Halifax Water on Robie Street. He noted that there would be an opportunity for public input prior to the matter being dealt with by Regional Council.

13. NOTICES OF MOTION: None

14. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Beverly Miller, Halifax, requested that Community Council not support the staff proposal for the urban centre design plan, citing concerns over whether a design plan can adequately address neighbourhood issues, and that it would remove responsibility for what goes in neighbourhoods, in regard to development issues, from the people who live there.

Ms. Miller also referred to the issue of urban density and suggested that there needs to be discussion about the definition of 'density'. She explained that there is a goal of getting an additional 25,000 people living in the urban centre by 2025 but there is no monitoring going on, therefore, there needs to be discussion and policy developed about how to approach density and how to get a balance on the Peninsula.

Mr. Phil Pacey, Halifax addressed Community Council and expressed concern about the proposed Regional Centre HRMbyDesign Plan and that it will replace the neighbourhood plans with a one-size-fits-all plan for the Peninsula and downtown Dartmouth. Mr. Pacey referred to an item on an upcoming Regional Council agenda regarding the substantial alteration of the Macara Barnstead Building. Mr. Pacey provided background information on the building, noting the historical features and advised that the building should be kept in its entirety, and not only the façade.

15. NEXT MEETING DATE - November 14, 2011

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds
Legislative Assistant