

DISTRICT 12 PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

May 30, 2011

PRESENT:

Ms. Beverly Miller, Chair  
Mr. Neil Lovitt  
Councillor Dawn Sloane

ABSENT:

Mr. Ali Nadeem

STAFF:

Ms. Donna Honeywell, Admin/PAC Coordinator  
Ms. Julie Vandervoort, Legislative Support  
Ms. Mackenzie Stonehocker, Planner

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:46 p.m. in the Media Room, City Hall.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - March 28, 2011**

**MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Mr. Lovitt that the minutes of March 28, 2011 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

The Committee approved the order of business as presented.

4. **BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE**

5. **CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS**

**5.1 Case 15775: Halifax Peninsula – Laying Hens**

- A staff report, dated February 7, 2011, was submitted.

Ms. Mackenzie Stonehocker, Planner, gave a presentation on the Halifax Peninsula Land Use By-law. She provided a brief outline of the staff research, the public information meeting and opinion surveys, the experience of other municipalities, and the alternatives open to Peninsula Community Council and to Regional Council.

The Committee members entered into a discussion with Ms. Stonehocker providing additional clarification in response to questions on pilot projects, animal and property controls under existing by-laws and the role of the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture. Councillor Sloane requested that staff undertake additional research on how the Department of Agriculture and the municipality could work together on this issue.

Mr. Fred Connors, citizen, requested permission to speak and the Committee agreed to hear a brief presentation. Mr. Connors outlined his experience in caring for backyard chickens, the responsibilities, and the community engagement that has resulted in his neighbourhood.

The Committee concluded that it did not agree with the staff recommendation and the existing By-law should be amended. The Chair stated that she could not support the Committee's decision as she felt there were not sufficient controls in place to ensure responsible ownership of laying hens. The Chair then called for a vote.

**MOVED by Mr. Lovitt, seconded by Councillor Sloane that the District 12 Planning Advisory Committee recommend that Peninsula Community Council:**

- 1. Amend the existing Halifax Peninsula Land Use By-law in order to permit backyard laying hens, taking into account further information on the Department of Agriculture's mandate; and**
- 2. Pursue amendments to the HRM Charter in order to enable pilot projects.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – GENERAL PLANNING ISSUES – None**

**7. STATUS UPDATES**

**7.1 Monthly status updates - Planning Applications**

The Committee reviewed the list of planning applications provided.

**7.2 Verbal update from Councillor Sloane on Development Activity**

Councillor Sloane provided an update on current development agreements, the feedback she is hearing at public information meetings, and recent improvements and additions to Gottingen Street and Agricola Street.

The Chair requested that Committee members receive advance notice of upcoming public information meetings in District 12.

**7.3 Review of Status Sheet**

The Committee reviewed the status sheet items provided.

**7.4 Decisions of Council – None**

**7.5 Demolition Permit Applications**

The Committee reviewed the information provided regarding demolition permit applications.

**8. DOCUMENTS RECEIVED – None**

**9. ADDED ITEMS – None**

**10. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for June 27, 2011.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Julie Vandervoort  
Legislative Support