

COMMUNITY PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
STANDING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

January 17, 2011

PRESENT: Councillor Steve Streach
Councillor Lorelei Nicoll
Councillor Darren Fisher
Councillor Mary Wile
Councillor Jerry Blumenthal
Councillor Sue Uteck
Councillor Tim Outhit
Councillor Peter Lund

STAFF: Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk
Ms. Jennifer Church, Managing Director, External & Corporate Affairs
Mr. Paul Dunphy, Director, Community Development
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Legislative Assistant called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Blumenthal that Councillor Nicoll be nominated as Chair. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Nicoll accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations, and Councillor Nicoll was declared Chair.

Councillor Nicoll took the Chair and called for nominations for Vice Chair.

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Lund that Councillor Uteck be nominated as Vice Chair. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Uteck accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations, and Councillor Uteck was declared Vice Chair.

3. MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2011

The Committee agreed that the regular meeting date would be the 2nd Thursday of each month. The meeting time will be determined once the Legislative Assistant surveys the Councillors' schedules to determine whether a meeting time of late morning or afternoon would be most suitable.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None

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

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

6.1 Correspondence – None

6.2 Petitions - None

6.3 Presentations:

6.3.1 Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee Overview – Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk

Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk provided a brief overview of the Standing Committee structure, reviewing the benefits and explaining the overall mandate of the Committee. In her remarks she advised that the mandate of this Standing Committee is to recommend to Council directions to support community and economic life, making HRM the most livable community in which to live work and play. She also noted that the Committee will provide oversight of HRM's Regional Plan, Economic Strategy, Economic Prosperity Outcomes and Immigrations Action. It will also provide oversight of community building initiatives in the areas of arts, culture and recreation and associated facility strategies.

Ms. Mellett advised that Ms. Jennifer Church, Managing Director, External & Corporate Affairs and Mr. Paul Dunphy, Director, Community Development will be the staff leads for the Committee.

Ms. Church and Mr. Dunphy provided brief presentations on the areas they will be seeking the Committee's input and responded to questions.

Ms. Church had provided a PowerPoint presentation and was asked to distribute a copy of the presentation to the committee following the meeting.

7. REPORTS

7.1 Draft Terms of Reference

A draft Terms of Reference for the Standing Committee was submitted.

Ms. Mellett reviewed the draft Terms of Reference and advised that she would like the Committee's feedback as to whether the terms are clear in providing direction and if it meets the level of expectation.

In response to a question from Councillor Uteck, Ms. Mellett advised that a list of Councillors interested in serving on the Standing Committee's subcommittees will be provided for the next meeting for selection.

The Chair advised that the Terms of Reference would be placed on the next agenda, or order to give committee members an opportunity to review it thoroughly.

Ms. Church asked that the Committee consider whether the Capital Ideas Proposal should be incorporated into the Terms of Reference and whether staff should bring this back to the Committee specifically or if the Committee was comfortable that it was sufficient to have it under Economic Prosperity and Economic Strategy. On another matter, Ms. Church advised that there's a Committee called the Mayor's Economic

Advisory Committee, which had been created by the GHP as part of the implementation of the Economic Strategy. She explained that it was not an official committee of council but it has council representation, and suggested that the Committee may want to consider it in terms of the relationship.

Ms. Church was asked to provide the membership list of the Committee.

In response to a question by Councillor Lund in regard to clarification on appointments to committees, Ms. Mellett explained that next year when appointments (citizen and councillor) are coming forward to the outside Boards and Commissions, the slate of nominees will first come to this Standing Committee and then on to the Membership Selection Committee and Regional Council. Ms. Mellett advised that with regard to developing the Terms of Reference, staff want to ensure that this Committee's role in those outside organizations it will have liaison with will be clear, noting that it is not an administrative role but a governance board mandate level.

Councillor Lund suggested that all the agencies and boards and committee that are referenced in the terms should be included under Number 6 Advisory Committees, and not just the three advisory committees that are listed.

Councillor Lund requested clarification on the phrase, 'Community & Arts Boards'

Mr. Dunphy advised that the intent was to make reference to Community Boards and Arts Boards.

8. ADDED ITEMS: None

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds
Legislative Assistant