

COMMUNITY PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES

April 14, 2011

PRESENT: Councillor Lorelei Nicoll, Chair
Councillor Sue Uteck, Vice Chair
Councillor Jerry Blumenthal
Councillor Peter Lund
Councillor Mary Wile
Councillor Darren Fisher

ABSENT: Councillor Steve Streach (Regrets)
Councillor Tim Outhit

STAFF: Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CALL TO ORDER.....	3
2.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES.....	3
3.	APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS.....	3
4.	BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.....	3
5.	CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS	
5.1	Correspondence	3
5.2	Petitions.....	3
5.3	Presentations:	
5.3.1	Economic Development Opportunity – Halifax Shipyard	3
5.3.2	Planning Services Workplan – Scope.....	5
6.	REPORTS:	
6.1	Business Improvement District Service Agreement Renewal 2011.....	5
7.	MATTERS REFERRED FROM REGIONAL COUNCIL / OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES:	
7.1	Motion – Councillor Watts RE HRM as an ‘Entertainment Centre’.....	6
8.	ADDED ITEMS:	
8.1	Social Heritage Strategy.....	7
9.	NEXT MEETING DATE.....	7
10.	ADJOURNMENT.....	7

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 10, 2011 and March 22, 2011 (special)

The Chair noted that, due to an oversight, the March 22, 2011 minutes did not get circulated in the agenda packages, but would be placed on the next agenda for approval.

MOVED by Councillor Lund, seconded by Councillor Wile that the minutes of March 10, 2011 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Addition:

8.1 Social Heritage Strategy

It was agreed that Item 6.1 would be moved up on the agenda and dealt with immediately following item 5.3.1.

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

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: None

5. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

5.1 Correspondence: None

5.2 Petitions: None

5.3 Presentations:

5.3.1 Economic Development Opportunity – Halifax Shipyard

The Chair advised that representatives from Irving Shipyard were in attendance to provide a presentation on the Company's efforts to secure a major shipbuilding contract with the federal government.

Mr. Steve Durrell, Irving Shipyard, provided the presentation to the Committee. In his remarks he advised that the Government of Canada's National Shipbuilding

Procurement Strategy will see approximately \$30 billion invested over the next 30 years in replacing Canada's aging federal fleet of large ships operated by the Navy and the Canadian Coast Guard. The work will be divided between two Canadian shipyards with one yard building combat vessels and the other building non-combat vessels and, to date, Irving Shipbuilding Inc. is one of five shipyards that have been short-listed. The selection of the two winning shipyards is expected in the summer of 2011.

The Chair thanked Mr. Durrell for the presentation and advised that it illustrates how significant Irving Shipyard is to Halifax and the entire regional economy. She added that with the Shipyard's strong history of working on Canada's naval fleet here, Halifax is ideally positioned to undertake the work on Canada's combat vessels in the coming decades.

Councillor Uteck entered the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Lund that:

WHEREAS Halifax is the home of Canada's East Coast Navy and HRM supports a strong Canadian Navy;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Canada's new National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy will see approx. \$30 billion invested over the next 30 years to replace the aging Navy and Coast Guard fleet;

AND WHEREAS the work will be divided between two Canadian shipyards, one for combat vessels and one for non-combat vessels;

AND WHEREAS the Irving Shipyard in Halifax has been short-listed as one of five from which the two shipyards will be selected;

AND WHEREAS the Irving Shipyard has been a centre of shipbuilding excellence in Halifax for over 50 years with extensive experience in combat vessels; Canada's largest marine engineering group; ice-free, state of the art deep water facilities; and a 365 day per year operation;

AND WHEREAS the Irving Shipyard is a major contributor to the regional economy with approx. 1200 employees and a total payroll of over \$70 million;

AND WHEREAS winning the contract for combat vessels would allow the shipbuilding industry in Halifax and the region to grow significantly by increasing the workforce, providing stable jobs for the next 30 years, and increasing training in skilled trades and professions that would continue to support Irving Shipyard as a centre of excellence;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

The HRM Standing Committee on Community Planning & Economic Development recommends that Halifax Regional Council endorse Irving Shipyard's bid under the National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy, and support its efforts to win the contract for combat vessel construction.

Mr. Durrell responded to questions.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

During the approval of the Order of Business, the Committee had agreed to deal with the following matter at this time.

6. REPORTS:

6.1 Business Improvement District Service Agreement Renewal 2011

A staff report dated February 8, 2011 was submitted.

Mr. Andrew Whittemore, Manager, Community Relations & Cultural Affairs provided a brief overview of the report.

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Wile that it is recommended that Halifax Regional Council authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute the Business Improvement Districts Service Agreement as set out in Attachment 1 of the February 8, 2011 staff report for one year, effective April 1, 2011.

Mr. Whittemore, and Mr. Paul Dunphy, Director, Community Planning responded to questions.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

5.3.2 Planning Services Workplan – Scope

A PowerPoint Presentation was submitted.

Mr. Austin French, Manager, Planning Services, Mr. Roger Wells, Supervisor, Regional and Community Planning; and Mr. Andy Fillmore, Project Manager, Urban Design provided a presentation. The presentation outlined the Planning Services Major Projects Workplan with the focus on the Regional Plan Five Year Review and how it will unfold. Staff advised the Committee that they would be seeking the Committee's endorsement on the Regional Plan Review.

Staff also presented for the Committee's information, the neighbourhood Greenprint document and explained how it will lead, subsequent to the Regional Plan Review, the creation of a new Regional Centre Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw. The Capital Ideas project was also highlighted. It was noted that this project was designed to create a stronger interface between the three levels of government and bring about important projects and developing concepts for the region, with a focus on the Regional Centre

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Blumenthal that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee:

- 1. Endorse the proposed scope and schedule of the Regional Plan 5 Year Review.**
- 2. Endorse the proposed scope and schedule of the Neighbourhood Greenprint project.**
- 3. Endorse the ongoing implementation of Capital Ideas**

A discussion ensued and staff responded to questions.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7. MATTERS REFERRED FROM REGIONAL COUNCIL / OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES:

7.1 Motion – Councillor Watts RE HRM as an ‘Entertainment Centre’

At its March 22, 2011 meeting, Regional Council forwarded a motion from Councillor Watts which requested clarification on the definition and approach to developing HRM as an “entertainment centre” and how entertainment events will be developed in a transparent and sustainable way.

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Lund that this matter be forwarded to staff for report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8. ADDED ITEMS:

8.1 Social Heritage Strategy

A staff report dated March 21, 2011 was circulated.

Mr. Andrew Whittemore, Manager, Community Relations and Cultural Affairs, provided an overview of the report.

Councillor Fisher noted that the Committee had just received the report and requested a brief recess in order that the members could have an opportunity to review it.

The Chair advised that the Committee would take a five minute break to read the report.

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Wile that the Standing Committee for Community Planning & Economic Development approve the initiation of the HRM Social Heritage Strategy and direct staff to commence Community Engagement.

Staff responded to questions.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE: May 12, 2011

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds
Legislative Assistant