



**ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 5, 2015**

PRESENT: Councillor Jennifer Watts, Chair
Councillor Barry Dalrymple, Vice-Chair
Councillor Darren Fisher
Deputy Mayor Lorelei Nicoll

REGRETS: Councillor Bill Karsten
Councillor Brad Johns

STAFF: Mr. Mike Labrecque, Deputy CAO
Ms. Laurie Lewis, Diversion Coordinator
Mr. Josh Judah, Solicitor
Ms. Sherryll Murphy, Deputy Clerk

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

The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee are available online:

<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/SCenv/150305essc-agenda.php>

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m, and adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 5, 2015

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Fisher that the minutes of the February 5, 2015 meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Councillor Watts noted that there were two items to consider adding to the agenda: the Tantallon, Musquodoboit and Porters Lake Watershed Report, which arrived late with insufficient time to review, and an update on the FCM Sustainability Conference by Councillor Karsten, which could not be provided as Councillor Karsten was not present. The Committee agreed that both items should be added to next month's agenda. Item 9.1.3 was deferred as Councillor Watts indicated that several members who may be interested in the position were not present.

Deferral: 9.1.3 Appointment of Representative to the Community Design Advisory Committee

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Fisher that the agenda be approved as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE

5. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

8.1 Correspondence

8.1.1 The Deputy Clerk noted that correspondence from the Nova Scotia Nature Trust regarding item 9.1.2. had been received and distributed to Committee members.

8.2 Petitions - NONE

8.3 Presentation - NONE

9. REPORTS

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Extended Producer Responsibility - Update

The following was before the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee:

A staff presentation on Extended Producer Responsibility

Ms. Laurie Lewis, Diversion Planning Coordinator, provided the presentation update to the Committee. She indicated that a Municipal/Provincial Solid Waste Resource Priorities Working Group has been formed to provide a forum for dialogue and to develop new regulations for Nova Scotia, with the first priority being Extended Producer Responsibility for printed paper and packaging.

Ms. Lewis indicated that several Nova Scotia municipalities are involved in the Municipal Financial Impact Study expected to be completed by the end of March 2015. She informed the Committee that Nova Scotia Environment is expected to release a "What We Heard" document summarizing the findings and conclusions from the public consultation process. Ms. Lewis expects that there will be forthcoming EPR regulation for Nova Scotia.

Deputy Mayor Nicoll noted that it was encouraging to hear that strides are being made toward EPR and inquired as to how the municipalities are being represented.

Ms. Lewis responded that municipalities have opportunities for communication through the Regional Chair, the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities, and individual elected officials serving on environment and sustainability committees throughout the province.

Councillor Fisher noted that this was good news and indicated interest in receiving a copy of the Nova Scotia Environment report with commentary from the public consultation process.

Ms. Lewis noted that she has requested a copy of the "What We Heard" report for circulation to all Halifax Regional Council members once it is released, expected to be later this Spring.

Councillor Watts expressed appreciation to those involved in the working group for their consideration of the inherent interest and opportunities and for ensuring that a "Made in Nova Scotia" EPR model is developed. She noted that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee would be interested in receiving an update when the next milestone is achieved.

9.1.2 NS Nature Trust 100 Islands

The following was before the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated February 5, 2015 re: NS Nature Trust 100 Islands
- Correspondence from Ms. Bonnie Sutherland, Executive Director, Nova Scotia Nature Trust re: 100 Wild Islands update for HRM ESSC

The following motion was on the floor:

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Fisher that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee not recommend to Regional Council, the approval of a donation, nor a grant of funds, nor a grant of land, to the Nature Trust's 100 Wild Islands Campaign

Deputy Mayor Nicoll noted that there were alternative courses of action within the correspondence from Nova Scotia Nature Trust and suggested that these alternatives be explored by staff through a supplemental report to be brought back to the Committee by May.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Fisher that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee refer the matter to staff to prepare a report in consideration of the suggested alternatives. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.1.3 Appointment of Representative to the Community Design Advisory Committee

This matter was deferred during the setting of the agenda.

9.2 COMMITTEE - NONE

9.3 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE

9.3.1 Update from Solid Waste Regional Chairs Committee – Councillor Watts

Councillor Watts provided a brief verbal update of the activities of the Regional Chairs Committee. No further action was taken.

10. MOTIONS - NONE

11. IN CAMERA - NONE

12. ADDED ITEMS - NONE

13. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – April 2, 2015

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Sherryl Murphy
Deputy Clerk