

GRANTS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

DECEMBER 5, 2011

PRESENT: Councillor Russell Walker, Chair  
Councillor Barry Dalrymple, Vice-Chair  
Councillor Jennifer Watts  
Councillor Jim Smith  
Councillor Peter Lund  
Ms. Lori Wozney  
Mr. Andrew Higdon  
Mr. Darren Watts  
Mr. David Woo

REGRETS: Mr. Geoff Baker  
Councillor Brad Johns

STAFF: Ms. Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Tax, Grants and Special Projects  
Mr. Andre MacNeil, Financial Consultant  
Mr. Brad Anguish, Director, Community & Recreation Services  
Ms. Chris Newson, Legislative Assistant

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor Russell Walker, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. in the Media Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – October 3<sup>rd</sup> and October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

October 3, 2011

The minutes of October 3, 2011 were deferred pending final review.

October 11, 2011

**MOVED by Mr. Darren Watts, seconded by Ms. Lori Wozney that the minutes of October 11, 2011, as presented, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Addition: 11.1 Information Report: Work Plan – Corporate Grants, Donations and Contributions Audit

**MOVED by Mr. Darren Watts, seconded by Councillor Barry Dalrymple that the agenda, as amended, be approved. 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 – None**
- 8.2 Petitions – None**
- 8.3 Delegations – None**

**9. REPORTS**

**9.1 Councillor Watts – HRM Community Grants Program – Recurring Annual Awards**

A copy of the October 3, 2011 Information Item 2 report, dated June 14, 2011 on HRM Community Grants Program: Recurring Annual Awards, was before the Committee.

A copy of the HRM Community Grants Program Directory of all Community Grants awarded from 1996 to 2011 was before the Committee.

By request of Councillor Watts, Information Item 2 from the October 3, 2011 agenda was added to this agenda for discussion.

Ms. Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Tax, Grants and Special Projects, presented the Information Report.

Discussion ensued on the report.

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Mr. Andrew Higdon that the Grants Committee request that staff prepare a recommendation report outlining a draft process, including a public consultation process and timelines, on ways to increase the value of grants/rationalizing grants assistance.**

The report is to include information on options such as implementing Non Consecutive Grants; restricting Capital Grants (i.e.: for those groups who receive full tax exemption which may total more than the grant cap), and; consideration of needs of the strictly volunteer groups versus those with paid staff and those groups who receive core funding versus those who must place more emphasis/effort on fundraising; what type of group is to be supported by public funding (i.e.: professional arts groups).

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## **9.2 Approval of Proposed 2012 Meeting Schedule**

A copy of the proposed 2012 meeting schedule was before the Committee.

**MOVED BY Councillor Smith, seconded by Mr. Darren Watts that the 2012 Proposed Meeting Schedule, as presented, be approved.**

Councillor Watts requested that if there were to be a July meeting that it be held during the first week of July rather than July 9<sup>th</sup>.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## **9.3 Disclosure Statement & FOIPOP Compliance**

A report dated October 19, 2011 was before the Committee.

Ms. Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Tax, Grants and Special Projects, presented the report.

Discussion ensued on the report. Staff responded to questions of clarification from Members of the Committee.

**MOVED by Mr. Andrew Higdon, seconded by Mr. David Woo that the Grants Committee approve the wording and expanded use of disclosure statements for**

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**grants and contributions as detailed in the Discussion section of the October 19, 2011 report, and; request that staff include a phrase explaining why the disclosure statement has been included in the application form and for the applicant to contact staff for assistance if required. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.4 Non-Profit Tax Exemption**

Ms. Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Tax, Grants and Special Projects, presented a verbal update advising that a report will be before the Committee at the January 9, 2012 meeting in regard to those groups recommended for removal from the program due to chronic delinquency in their reporting.

**10. MOTIONS – NONE**

**11. ADDED ITEMS**

**11.1 Information Report: Work Plan – Corporate Grants, Donations and Contributions Audit**

An Information Report dated November 18, 2011 was before the Committee.

The report was before the Committee for information purposes only. No further action required.

**12. NOTICE OF MOTION – NONE**

**13. NEXT MEETING DATE – January 9, 2012**

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Chris Newson  
Legislative Assistant

**Information Items**

1. Correspondence from staff to Fultz Corner Restoration Society re: Property Tax Arrears