

GRANTS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

May 7, 2012

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

REGRETS: Councillor Brad Johns

STAFF: Mr. Bruce Fisher, Manager, Financial Planning and Policy  
Ms. Denise Schofield, Manager, Regional Recreation and Culture  
Mr. André MacNeil, Senior Financial Consultant, Finance  
Ms. Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Tax, Grants and Special  
Projects  
Ms. Chris Newson, Legislative Assistant

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor Dalrymple, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. in Halifax Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 5, 2012**

**MOVED by Councillor Lund, seconded by Councillor Smith that the minutes of March 5, 2012, as presented, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Additions: Councillor Lund: Information Item 2 - HRM Community Grants Program 2012-2013: Ineligible Applications  
Councillor Lund – Information Item 7 - Community Grants Program 2012-2013: Applications Not Recommended for Funding

**MOVED by Mr. Watts, seconded by Councillor Smith that the agenda, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

**5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE**

**6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS, DELEGATIONS - NONE**

**7. REPORTS**

**7.1 HRM/CMHC Joint Sale, Less than Market Value Sale of 2421 Brunswick Street, Halifax, to Adsum Association for Women and Children**

The March 6, 2012 staff report was before the Committee.

Ms. Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Tax, Grants and Special Projects, presented the report then responded to questions of clarification from Members of the Committee.

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Mr. Higdon that the Grants Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:**

- 1. Authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to enter into an Agreement of Purchase and Sale with Canadian Housing and Mortgage Corporation and Adsum Association for Women and Children for less than market value sale of 2421 Brunswick Street, Halifax, to the Adsum Association for Women and Children as per the terms and conditions set out in Table 1 of the March 6, 2012 staff report.**

2. **Furthermore, following confirmation of approval of sale by CMHC set a date for a public hearing as required under Section 63 (2) of the HRM Charter.**

### **MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

#### **7.2 HRM Community Grants Program 2012-2013: Recommended Awards**

The April 25, 2012 staff report was before the Committee.

Ms. Kate Watson declared a potential Conflict of Interest on Item 43: Halifax Theatre for Young People, page 18 of the April 25, 2012 staff report, as she serves on their Board of Directors. She then removed herself from all discussion on this matter.

Mr. Geoff Baker entered the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

Ms. Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Tax, Grants and Special Projects, presented the report then responded to questions of clarification from Members of the Committee.

Discussion ensued on the sector ranking figures, the numbers in brackets after the name of the applicant throughout the April 24, 2012 staff report. The Committee requested that staff no longer include those numbers in the reports as the numbers were confusing. The Review Methodology, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the April 25, 2012 staff report, explains the sector ranking, however; staff agreed to no longer include the sector ranking figures in future staff reports.

**MOVED by Mr. Watts, seconded by Councillor Walker that the Grants Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve the 56 awards detailed in Attachment 2 of the April 25, 2012 staff report for a combined total cost of \$413,478 from operating account M311-8004 (Community Grants Program).**

In response to concerns raised by Councillors Watts and Smith in regard to cat rescue groups, Ms. Temple advised that she would forward to them a previous Information Report that had been provided to Regional Council on the Feral Cat program. She noted that veterinary fees were ineligible under the Grant Program guidelines.

In response to concerns raised by Councillor Lund in regard to window replacements, Ms. Temple clarified that the applicant must be the owner as the program does not cover leasehold improvements.

Discussion ensued on the proposed awards with the Committee requesting that staff review the following applications for possible increases:

Mulgrave Park Caring and Learning Centre: Item 11, page 8 of the April 25, 2012 staff report. (Capital Grant)

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Lund that the Grants Committee recommend that the staff proposed award be forwarded to Regional Council for the Mulgrave Park Caring and Learning Centre and that staff review the application for a possible increase.**

Councillor Watts requested that staff consider reviewing the application by the Mulgrave Park Caring and Learning Centre as the Cooking with Kids Program was an interesting program being presented by a group who has worked well in the area for some time.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Staff advised that their response in regard to the requested review for a possible increase, will be included in the upcoming report to the Grants Committee on appeals to the HRM Community Grants Program awards.

The Anglican Church of the Apostles Item 18, page 10 of the April 25, 2012 staff report. (Capital Grant/Facility Upgrade)

Councillor Watts provided new information in regard to the Anglican Church of the Apostle's application explaining that the area has recently lost two gymnasiums and the closure of two churches. The applicant group offers programs such as a lunch program, Elder Aerobics and Narcotics Anonymous. The area facilities are in great demand with the local schools often booked. The elevator would assist with accessibility at this facility. She requested that the Committee and staff consider an increase to \$25,000.

Without a decision being made on this matter, discussion ensued on the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron application.

See motion included under discussion for the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron.

Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron Item 22, page 11 of the April 25, 2012 staff report. (Capital Grant/Accessibility Upgrades)

Mr. Geoff Baker noted that the **2103** Mobility Cup event referenced in the staff report (page 11) should be the **2013** Mobility Cup event.

Mr. Higdon expressed concern with persons with disabilities manoeuvring around the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron area and requested that staff reconsider the application due to the RNSYS's commitment to provide activities/program for persons with disabilities.

The Committee agreed that there appears to be a commitment from the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron to support activities/access for the disabled as they are bidding on international competitions and have won the bid for the 2014 International Association for Disabled Sailing World Championship, an Olympic qualifying event, and; will be hosting the 2013 Mobility Cup.

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Smith that the Grants Committee recommend an increase to \$10,000 for the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron.**

The Committee requested that staff provide confirmation on whether or not the group has applied to the provincial and federal government accessibility programs and whether or not any funding has been granted from the other levels of government. Staff advised that their response will be included in the upcoming report to the Grants Committee on appeals to the HRM Community Grants Program awards.

Discussion ensued on the motion with Councillor Watts **withdrawing the motion** for an increase at this time pending confirmation by staff on the issue of other sources of funding.

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Mr. Watts that the Grants Committee recommend that the Anglican Church of the Apostles and Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron awards be recommended to Regional Council for approval as presented in the April 25, 2012 staff report, and; that staff review the applications for possible increases.**

Staff advised that their response will be included in the upcoming report to the Grants Committee on appeals to the HRM Community Grants Program awards.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Dr. Lori Wozney suggested that, due to the potential for numerous future requests for accessibility assistance, the Grant Program application form include a section for the applicant to declare whether or not they have applied for Federal or Provincial accessibility funding programs and what funding, if any, has been awarded or expected.

Ms. Temple suggested, for the Committee's consideration, that the HRM Grant Program for accessibility grants could be conditional upon the provincial and/or federal programs as well.

Mr. David Woo retired from the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Ms. Temple responded to further questions of clarification from Members of the Committee on various applications outlined in the April 25, 2012 staff report.

A vote was then taken on the main motion as follows:

**MOVED by Mr. Watts, seconded by Councillor Walker that the Grants Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve the 56 awards detailed in Attachment 2 of the April 25, 2012 staff report for a combined total cost of \$413,478 from operating account M311-8004 (Community Grants Program).**

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Staff are to review the applications for the three following groups for potential increases to the proposed awards as part of the Appeals Report:

1. Mulgrave Park Caring and Learning Centre: Item 11, page 8 of the April 25, 2012 staff report. (Capital Grant)
2. Anglican Church of the Apostles Item 18, page 10 of the April 25, 2012 staff report. (Capital Grant/Facility Upgrade)
3. Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron Item 22, page 11 of the April 25, 2012 staff report. (Capital Grant/Accessibility Upgrades)

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**8. ADDED ITEMS**

**8.1 Information Item 2 - HRM Community Grants Program 2012-2013: Ineligible Applications**

The April 10, 2012 Information Report was before the Committee.

Ms. Temple responded to questions of clarification from Members of the Committee. No further action requested.

**8.2 Information Item 7 - Community Grants Program 2012-2013: Applications Not Recommended for Funding**

The April 7, 2012 Information Report was before the Committee.

Ms. Temple responded to questions of clarification from Members of the Committee. No further action requested.

**9. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE**

**10. NEXT MEETING DATE – June 4, 2012**

The Committee requested that an alternate date be determined for June due to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Conference being held in early June. The Legislative Assistant will forward alternate June meeting dates to the Committee.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Chris Newson  
Legislative Assistant

## INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Upcoming Agenda Items:
  - a) Recurring Annual Awards – Draft Process – Spring 2012
  - b) Non-Profit Tax in Comparable Municipalities – Spring / Fall 2012
  - c) Proposed Tax Exemption Program Review – Spring / Fall 2012
2. Information Report dated April 7, 2012: HRM Community Grants Program 2012-2013: Ineligible Applications
3. Copy of letter dated March 2, 2012 to Mr. Roger Leclerc re: Proposed Transfer of Title: 2421 Brunswick Street, Halifax
4. Copy of letter dated March 30, 2012 from staff sent to Naval Memorial Trust re: HRM Community Grants Program: Conditional Award: Request for Information
5. Copy of letter dated March 31, 2012 from staff sent to Naval Memorial Trust re: HRM Community Grant Program: Conditional Capital Award 2011-2012
6. AllNovaScotia.com article of Tuesday, March 5, 2012 re: Symphony Nova Scotia
7. Information Report dated April 10, 2012 re: Community Grants Program 2012-2013: Applications Not Recommended for Funding