

GRANTS COMMITTEE
MINUTES

August 12, 2013

PRESENT: Councillor Russell Walker, Chair
Councillor David Hendsbee
Councillor Matt Whitman
Ms. Kate Watson

Mr. Darren Watts
Mr. Geoff Baker

REGRETS: Councillor Barry Dalrymple, Vice-Chair
Councillor Waye Mason
Ms. Lori Wozney

STAFF: Ms. Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Grants and Special
Projects
Mr. Peter Greechan, Community Developer, Community and
Recreation Services
Mr. Quentin Hill, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. in Halifax Hall, 2nd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

Councillor Walker noted the passing of Mr. Andrew Higdon, who had served on the Grants Committee for over ten years.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 10, 2013

MOVED by Mr. Watts, seconded by Mr. Baker that the June 10, 2013 minutes be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions: 8.1 Late Applications to Tax Exemption Program

MOVED by Councillor Whitman, seconded by Ms. Watson that the agenda be approved as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES- NONE

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7. REPORTS

7.1 BID Contributions Fund: 2013-2014 Recommended Awards

MOVED by Mr. Watts, seconded by Ms. Watson that the HRM Grants Committee recommend that Regional Council approve the 7 awards detailed in Attachment 2 of the July 22, 2013 staff report for a combined total of \$99,803.81 from operating account C771-6919. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7.2 Community Grants – Delinquent Reports

An information report dated August 8, 2013 was before the Committee.

Ms. Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Grants and Special Projects, commented that some of the groups listed in the report had applied for tax exemption. She advised that there is no policy that would eliminate the groups from tax exemption due to delinquent reporting. She suggested that under future application for tax exemption these groups

should be declined. She noted that this might give the groups more incentive to file the reports and on time.

Discussion ensued.

MOVED by Mr. Watts, seconded by Mr. Baker that the Grants Committee recommend that groups who are delinquent in reporting under the Community Grants Program not qualify for tax exemption status.

Ms. Temple advised that staff would work with finance to outline various options and bring the suggestions back outlined in a report for the Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Status of Late Applications to the 2013 Tax Exemption for Non-Profit Organizations Program – Staff Verbal Update

Ms. Temple advised that there were late applications last year and staff and the Committee requested that they be removed from consideration of Bylaw T-200. She noted that some of the groups were removed and some appealed at the Public Hearing and were reinstated.

Ms. Temple advised that the first recommendation was to remove the following groups from tax exemption status due to late and incomplete applications:

- Chezzetcook District Lions Club
- Ketch Harbour Area Residents Association
- Sinovia Aquatic Club
- Silverside Residents Association

Ms. Temple advised that each of these groups are sent out a letter informing them that the deadline is November 30, and some of the applications are being sent in as late as April of the following year.

Councillor Hendsbee noted that some of the groups change over in executive groups and the information regarding grants is not passed forward to the new executive.

MOVED by Mr. Baker, seconded by Councillor Whitman that the Grants Committee recommend removal of the following groups from tax exemption status due to late and incomplete applications:

- **Chezzetcook District Lions Club**
- **Ketch Harbour Area Residents Association**
- **Sinovia Aquatic Club**

- **Silverside Residents Association**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Hendsbee voted against the motion.

Ms. Temple advised that the following three groups that staff was not recommending removal:

- Creighton Garish Development
- Village Green
- Musquodoboit Harbour Heritage Society (letter was sent to wrong address)

Ms. Temple advised that the following three groups were new to the program and staff were recommending that a caution letter be sent to the groups:

- Old School Gathering Place- Musquodoboit Harbour
- Halifax Haven Guest Home
- Alrasoul Islamic Society – Bedford

Further discussion ensued.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE – September 9, 2013

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Quentin Hill
Legislative Assistant