

CULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

January 20, 2006

PRESENT:

Councillor Uteck
Mike LaLeune
Betty Thomas
Councillor Streach
Andrew Inch
Elias Metlej

REGRETS:

Paul Greenhalgh
Gordon Morgan
Margie Clow-Bohan
Shahin Sayadi
Gary Vermeir

STAFF:

Andrew Whittemore, Executive Assistant CAO
Holly Richardson, Community Developer, Recreation, Tourism and
Culture
Stephanie Parsons, Legislative Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:20 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - November 25, 2005

MOVED BY Councillor Streach, seconded by Mr. LaLeune by that the minutes of November 25, 2005 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

The agenda was accepted as presented.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

4.1 Work Plan - Time Line

C A document entitled Cultural Plan Development: Staff Work Plan dated January 10, 2006 was circulated to the Committee.

Ms. Richardson advised the Committee that the short and long-term priorities are being reviewed by HRM staff. The intent is to take the draft plan to Committee of the Whole on February 14, 2006 and the final report to Council on February 28, 2006 with a recommendation to approve the Cultural Plan.

Councillor Uteck, advised the Committee that the time line can change depending on Council priorities.

MOVED BY Councillor Streach, seconded by Mr. Metlej that the Cultural Advisory Committee approve the Cultural Work Plan dated January 10, 2006. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4.2 Draft Policy Framework and Implementation Strategy

C A revised document Draft HRM Cultural Plan dated January 10, 2006 was circulated to the Committee for discussion.

C A document entitled HRM Cultural Plan Implementation Strategy Draft January 10, 2006 was circulated to the Committee for discussion.

C A document entitled Decision Making Framework for Cultural Infrastructure Investment

was circulated to the Committee.

Ms. Richardson advised that the policy statements have been revised to remove duplication, increase readability and to reflect broader outcomes.

Policy 5.5, page 40 has been added because the original policy did not have the Central Library as a capital project recommendation. The Central Library has been identified as a deliverable of the Cultural Plan which is currently on HRM's infrastructure project list. Policy 5.5 provides for definitive recommendations as a result of the December 16, 2005, Staff/Cultural Advisory Committee workshop.

Councillor Uteck advised that the policy provides direction to Council, with the understanding that Council priorities may change. Including these priorities in the Cultural Plan enables the public to see the long term objectives.

Ms. Richardson advised that the intent of policy 5.4, page 40 has been changed upon the recommendation of the HRM's Executive Management Team (EMT. Bullet 3 has been removed as this action item will be dealt with through the annual budgeting process. Mr. Whittemore advised that in reference to bullet 7 that EMT suggested that there is an opportunity to allow for a portion of the annual deed transfer tax revenue to be allocated to Capital Project of the Cultural Plan.

Committee members raised concern that this policy may result in no funds being allocated to the Cultural Plan. The Committee requested that staff bring forward a best case scenario report before they endorse the deed transfer tax recommendation. This is to be added to the agenda of the January 27, 2006 Cultural Advisory Committee meeting.

MOVED BY Mr. LaLeune, seconded by Ms. Thomas that the Cultural Advisory Committee recommend that staff provide a best case scenario based on the last 10 years of deed transfer tax revenue as it relates to policy 5.4. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

A brief discussion ensued regarding policy 5.8, Canadian Heritage designation "Cultural Capital." The Committee recommend that no year be assigned as the Committee is of the opinion that Halifax Regional Municipality has a weak case and will not be ready in 2009. It was recommended that policy 5.8 be reworded to indicate that HRM will apply for the Cultural Capital designation at a future date and further that an annual review be conducted to determine the possibility of applying for the designation.

Mr. LaLeune questioned how the decision making process is going to be handled in regards to capital projects. There is the potential for backlash if the community does not know what the decision making criterion is. Ms. Richardson advised that the plan is not necessarily going

to deliver that framework. The decision making criterion has been identified as a priority action to implement the Cultural Plan.

MOVED BY Councillor Streach, seconded by Mr. Inch that the Cultural Advisory Committee endorse in principle the draft Cultural Policy Framework and Implementation Strategy as presented in the revised draft dated January 10, 2006 for the purpose of releasing to the public for input and comment. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Uteck, Councillor Streach and Mr. Metlej left the meeting at 12:04. Without a quorum being present the Committee continued discussion regarding the decision making criteria.

Mr. LaLeune stressed the importance in providing decision making criteria in conjunction with the Cultural Plan. The decision making criterion determines how you are going to implement the plan. The public gets in engaged in discussion when they understand how the plan relates to them.

Ms. Richardson advised that she will review the Recreation Facility Master plan to see what kind of rating process can be applied to ensure that it is factored into the Cultural Plan. She further assured Mr. LaLeune that it will be addressed. She suggested that the decision making criteria be added to the next agenda.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS

5.1 Governance - Discussed as part of item 4.2.

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS - NONE

7. REPORTS - NONE

8. ADDED ITEMS - NONE

9. NEXT MEETING DATE - January 27, 2006

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Stephanie Parsons
Legislative Assistant

