

**CULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**June 6, 2007**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Ms. Joan Hicks, Vice Chair  
Ms. Sharen MacPherson  
Ms. Sheilagh Hunt  
Mr. William Barker  
Ms. June Buchanan  
Ms. Sally Camus  
Ms. May Lui  
Ms. Megan Williams  
Mr. Shalom Mandaville  
Deputy Mayor Sue Uteck

**REGRETS:** Councillor Andrew Younger, Chair  
Ms. Adriane Abbott  
Mr. Michael Cross  
Mr. Gary Russell

**STAFF:** Ms. Holly Richardson, Regional Coordinator, Culture & Heritage  
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

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## 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. in the Media Room, City Hall.

## 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Williams made reference to the discussion the committee had on the sculpture approved for the Grand Parade in honour of fallen peace officers, and indicated that she felt, due to the level of concern expressed by members, the minutes of May 2, 2007 should be amended to reflect this concern.

A discussion ensued and the Chair advised that rather than amend the minutes, the item will be placed on this agenda as an added item.

**MOVED by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mr. Barker that the minutes of May 2, 2007 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

Additions:

- 6.1 Grand Parade Square (Megan Williams)
- 6.2 Mayor's Art Centre (Megan Williams)
- 6.3 CAC Workshop (Chair)

**MOVED by Ms. Buchanan, seconded by Mr. Barker that the agenda, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## 4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES/DEFERRED BUSINESS:

### 4.1 Urban Design Update - Adriane Abbott

Ms. Abbott had sent regrets for this meeting.

Copies of the *HRM by Design Regional Centre Urban Design Study e-news*, issues 1, 2, and 3 were submitted for information.

For information, Ms. Richardson circulated a notice of a Public Open House on June 11, 2007.

Ms. Richardson gave a brief synopsis of the Urban Design project.

At 3:21 p.m. Ms. Sheilagh Hunt entered the meeting.

Ms. Richardson suggested that if the Committee wished, she could arrange for HRM staff who is managing this project to provide a 10 minute presentation.

The Chair indicated that this was not necessary advising that Ms. Abbott is the CAC representative on the Urban Design Committee, and although she was unable to attend today, she will provide regular updates on the project.

#### **4.2 Khyber Arts Cluster - Report**

A staff report dated May 31, 2007 was submitted.

Ms. Richardson advised that last month the Committee discussed the concept of a Cluster facility at the Khyber building and the Committee endorsed the concept in principle. Referring to the submitted report, Ms. Richardson explained that it requires Regional Council approval before there is any strategic investment in the facility.

Ms. Richardson advised that she drafted the report on behalf of the Committee, and if the Committee approves this, it will then go forward to Regional Council. She pointed out that there will actually be two reports going to Regional Council, one dealing with the building itself—which this Committee will forward—and the other report, which the Committee will not be involved with, will outline the role of the Khyber Arts Society.

Ms. Richardson reviewed the report and responded to questions.

At 3:36 p.m. Councillor Uteck entered the meeting.

**MOVED by Mr. Mandaville, seconded by Ms. Lui that the Cultural Advisory Committee recommend Regional Council:**

- 1. Authorize a process, as outlined in the May 31, 2007 staff report, to enable an HRM-owned/community operated Arts & Culture Cluster Facility at the Khyber building, 1588 Barrington Street; and**
- 2. Authorize the initiation of a detailed Feasibility Study and Business Plan for the Khyber Arts & Culture Cluster.**

Ms. Williams indicated that she would abstain from voting on the motion (Ms. Williams advised at the May 2, 2007 meeting that she was working on a project with the Khyber building.)

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

#### **5. NEW BUSINESS:**

##### **5.1 Appointments to the Major Events Marketing Levy Funding Committee**

A discussion ensued and there was general consensus that more information was required before the Committee could provide appointments.

**MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Ms. Camus that this matter be deferred to the next regular meeting and that staff be asked to provide additional information.**

Mr. Barker advised that as part of the requested information, he would like to know why this Committee (CAC) is being asked to appoint two people.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**5.2 Public Art Policy**

An Information Report dated June 1, 2007 was submitted.

Ms. Richardson explained that in April, as a result of Councillor Murphy's concern about public art being vandalized, he moved a motion specific to public art protection; however, the matter was referred to this Committee for comment and report back to Regional Council. She referred to the Committee discussion on public art policy at the last meeting and advised that, on behalf of the Committee she drafted an information report, which addresses the Councillor's concern in the overall Public Art Policy. Ms. Richardson added that the Policy will be presented to Council in the near future.

Ms. Richardson advised that the report essentially says that the Committee is working on a Public Art Policy, and part of the Policy will address Councillor Murphy's concern about vandalism of public art. She added that the report also notes that the role of the Committee will be to address the art program, but not the enforcement, which is something that will happen through other mechanisms.

Ms. Richardson responded to questions.

In response to a question, she advised that there are no new budget implications with this report, but it does state that there will be budget implications when the Policy comes before Regional Council.

**MOVED by Mr. Mandaville, seconded by Mr. Barker that the Cultural Advisory Committee endorse the June 1, 2007 Information Report on Public Art Protection and recommend that it go forward to Regional Council. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**6. ADDED ITEMS:**

**6.1 Grand Parade Square**

This item was added by Ms. Williams.

Ms. Richardson responded to questions concerning the proposal for public art in the Grand Parade.

Ms. Williams advised that any plan should include a process whereby a committee is established to review requests for public art and that Regional Council should not be involved in the approval of public art. She added that the sculpture to honour fallen peace officers is not something in which Regional Council should decide. Ms. Williams further added that the Cultural Advisory Committee should recommend that Regional Council delay decision until the Public Art Policy comes before Council.

A discussion ensued and Ms. Richardson clarified for the Committee's information, the

proposal for a monument to fallen peace officers. She explained that, previously, Regional Council approved, in principle, the idea of a monument, and staff was requested to find a suitable location. She added that staff reviewed sites, and is recommending the Grand Parade as this falls within the Capital District Master Plan. Ms. Richardson pointed out that it is not the Committee's mandate to review specific pieces of art, but rather the role is to advise on policies and planning of a public art program.

Following a discussion, Councillor Uteck indicated that she would raise this issue at Council, and at that time she will point out that this is an exciting new process and recommend that Regional Council begin the public art policy process immediately, and with a peer review committee.

There was general consensus to endorse Councillor Uteck 's suggestion that she bring this matter before Regional Council as a positive recommendation and advise that the Cultural Advisory Committee is in favour of having a public art policy process established.

## **6.2 Mayor's Art Centre**

This item was added to the agenda by Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams advised that a recent edition of *Coast Magazine* quoted Mayor Kelly as saying that a new Arts and Culture Centre will be built in Halifax, and she asked if anyone had further information.

Councillor Uteck advised that she was not aware of any discussion on an Arts and Culture Centre, but that the Mayor also made this comment in a speech to the Chamber of Commerce.

The Chair noted that at the upcoming CAC workshop, a discussion will be held on cultural infrastructure planning.

## **6.3 June 20, 2007 CAC Workshop**

Ms. Richardson confirmed that the Cultural Advisory Committee Workshop will be held June 20, 2007 in the Helen Creighton Room, Alderney Landing building.

**7. NEXT MEETING DATE - July 4, 2007**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds  
Legislative Assistant