

CROSSWALK SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

July 25, 2013

- PRESENT: Councillor Barry Dalrymple, Chair  
Ms. Janet Barlow, Vice Chair  
Councillor Darren Fisher  
Councillor Waye Mason  
Mr. Stephen Stone  
Mr. Tom Boyd  
Mr. Kyle Miller  
Mr. Ben Wedge
- REGRETS: Dr. Ashan Habib  
Ms. Lucille Reid  
Ms. Jamy-Ellen Klenavic
- STAFF: Ms. Sherryl Murphy, Deputy Clerk  
Mr. Taso Koutroulakis, Traffic and ROW  
Sgt. David Reynolds, Integrated HRP/RCMP Traffic Supervisor  
Ms. Jill McGillicuddy, Planner, Halifax Regional School Board  
Mr. Roddy MacIntyre, Traffic and ROW  
Mr. Darcy Warren, Legislative Assistant

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor Barry Dalrymple, Interim Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. in the Halifax Hall, Main Floor, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

The Interim Chair then passed the meeting over to Sherryl Murphy, Deputy Clerk, for the election of Chair and Vice Chair.

**2. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Ms. Murphy called for nominations for Chair. Councillor Fisher nominated Councillor Dalrymple as Chair. Ms. Murphy called three times for any other nominations, there being none, nominations ceased.

**MOVED by Ms. Barlow, seconded by Councillor Fisher, that Councillor Dalrymple be nominated as Chair of Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Councillor Dalrymple accepted the position of Chair. Ms. Murphy passed the meeting over to the Chair for the election of Vice Chair.

The Chair called for nominations for Vice Chair. Councillor Fisher nominated Ms. Barlow as Vice Chair. The Chair called three times for any other nominations. There being none he declared Ms. Barlow as Vice Chair.

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Fisher, that Ms. Barlow be nominated Vice Chair of the Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee. MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED.**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 20, 2013**

**MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Ms. Barlow, that the minutes of June 20, 2013 be approved as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Additions:

- 8.1 Motion for Zebra Stripe Report – Councillor Darren Fisher
- 8.2 Future agenda items – Ms. Janet Barlow

**MOVED by Mr. Wedge, seconded by Mr. Stone, that the order of business be approved as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## **5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

### **5.1 Discussion on Committee/Council decision making process – Clerk’s Office** *(deferred from June 20, 2013 meeting)*

Ms. Murphy reviewed with Committee members the process in decision making. Ms. Murphy explained that the Committee should have a work plan and that any recommendations will have to go to the Transportation Standing Committee. She further stated that any decisions of the Committee will require a motion. Staff informed the Committee that information items from Regional Council will be made available to members through the Clerk’s Office. Any changes to budget or policy are sent to the Transportation Standing Committee (TSC) and forwarded to Regional Council.

### **5.2 Review of Terms of Reference/Mandate of Committee** *(deferred from June 20, 2013 meeting)*

The Committee entered into discussion on the Terms of Reference and the mandate of the Committee. Staff clarified that any changes to the Terms of Reference have to be approved by the Transportation Standing Committee. Ms. Barlow asked if it was possible to have a representative from the province. Sgt. David Reynolds noted member Regional Transportation Advisory Committee, and if the committee would like a change to their membership that they would have to go through the Transportation Standing Committee.

Councillor Fisher asked if the Committee could have a sub-committee. He was informed by staff that they could not. If any meetings were held outside of the Committee, it will have to come back to this Committee. The Chair asked if they could hold Town Halls and again staff indicated that this is not in their mandate.

Staff informed the Committee that there is a time frame that has to be met for the report. Staff suggested that the Committee use Volunteer Services to facilitate a session to develop a work plan. The Committee members agreed to have Volunteer Services attend the next meeting for this purpose.

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

### **6.1 Correspondence – Hansen Customer Service Resident Suggestions**

A copy of the correspondence is on file.

## **7. REPORTS/DISCUSSIONS**

### **7.1 Factors in Crosswalk Determination**

Mr. Taso Koutroulakis, Traffic and Right of Way Services (ROW) gave a presentation to the Committee on Crosswalk Determination. He informed members that the determination of whether a crosswalk needs to be marked is based primarily on the necessity to create a gap in traffic. Crosswalks will not be marked at locations where pedestrian safety may be compromised. Staff gave a comparison in crosswalk determination from 1998 and 2012 using the Transportation Association of Canada Pedestrian Crossing Control Manual as a guide. In conclusion of the presentation Mr. Koutroulakis indicated that ultimately it was up to Traffic and ROW to determine where crosswalks are placed.

A copy of the presentation is on file.

The Committee then entered into discussion with questions being answered by staff.

Mr. Boyd asked if there are any changes being made to the lighting of crosswalks and is there any coordination between traffic and street maintenance when painting or repainting crosswalks. Staff informed the members that a project is on-going to change the old lighting with new LED lighting and that the painting of crosswalks is contracted work and they are painted once a year. There are times when lines need to be repainted due to road repairs.

Mr. Wedge commented that at busy intersections the crossing signals don't seem to give enough time to cross. Staff indicated that the lights are timed during the day and at night pedestrians have to push the crosswalk button.

Ms. Barlow expressed her concern that if you have to push a button to cross once the light has turned green, but the walking hand is flashing red, you have to wait a full cycle in order to cross. Staff stated that there is no way in which to lengthen the time.

Ms. McGillicuddy informed members that when a new development is taking place, the HRSB is asked for input on what the school needs will be. Staff indicated that they would like to be more involved in the process of siting schools.

## **8. ADDED ITEMS**

### **8.1 Motion for Zebra Stripe Report**

Discussion ensued on a proposed motion by Councillor Fisher to have a report on the budget implications and options for zebra striping all marked and uncontrolled crosswalks in HRM.

Mr. Stone asked that the report include statistics. Staff informed the members that this would be a difficult to include. Staff did indicate that if local statistics are not available, it could be possible to set up trials at certain crosswalks if members decided this is what they want.

**MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Councillor Mason, that the Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee request that the Transportation Standing Committee, request a staff report on the budget implications and options for zebra stripping all marked and uncontrolled crosswalks in HRM. The report should include best orientation of stripes, width and best practices for zebra striping marked crosswalks and if available safety statistics. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## **8.2 Future Agenda Items**

Ms. Barlow suggested the following future items;

- A presentation by Dr. Ashan Habib, Dalhousie , on statistics gathered so far from Motor Vehicle, HRP and the RCMP
- A Presentation from Share the Road Campaign
- Norm Collins
- Ecology Action Center – Making Tracks
- Crossing Guards – overview of their training, parameters on decision making process on which crosswalks have crossing guards

The Committee agreed to limit presentations to two per meeting.

## **9. NEXT MEETING DATE – August 22, 2013**

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Darcy Warren  
Legislative Assistant