

**DANGEROUS & UNSIGHTLY PREMISES
MINUTES**

May 15, 2008

PRESENT:

Councillor Dawn Sloane, Chair
Councillor Gloria McCluskey, Vice Chair
Councillor Bill Karsten
Councillor Mary Wile
Councillor Brad Johns
Councillor Jackie Barkhouse

REGRETS:

Councillor Krista Snow
Councillor Robert Harvey

STAFF:

Ms. Tanya Phillips, Manager By-Law Services
Ms. Erin Dobson, Coordinator, Support Services
Mr. Jeff Rogers, Regional Co-ordinator By-Law Enforcement
Services
Ms. Melody Campbell, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 p.m. in Halifax Hall, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - NONE

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA, ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

MOVED BY Councillor Karsten, seconded by Johns, that the Order of Business be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - None

4.1 Appeals - None

4.2 Demolitions - None

5. APPEALS - None

6. DEMOLITIONS - NONE

7. PRESENTATIONS

7.1 Derelict Building Legislation

Ms. Tanya Phillips and Mr. Jeff Rogers introduced Ms. Erin Dobson, Coordinator, Support Services, to the Committee.

Staff provided a presentation to the Committee with a general overview of:

- By-law D-300 Derelict Buildings
- By-law M-100 Residential Occupancy
- Municipal Government Act
- Nova Scotia Fire Safety Act

The Committee was provided information on six properties that fall under Derelict Buildings.

In response to queries by Committee members, the following points were clarified.

- there is a difference between a structurally sound building and if a building is habitable, they are two different issues
- Fire Services can also speak to why a building is inhabitable, they could provide a report and can attend Dangerous and Unsightly Committee with their findings
- many of the properties will fall under different circumstances
- in a multi-owned building, a derelict building can still be served and go forward
- some properties will come before the Committee although some owners have walked away from the property

- Nova Scotia Fire Safety Act is applicable on buildings over four stories, By-law M-100 Residential Occupancy encompasses buildings four stories and below
- the enforcement of demolition is covered in the MGA
- D-300, M-100, the MGA and the NS Fire Safety Act all work together to enable enforcement
- if the owner does not let By-law services in to the building, legal services will work together with By-law Services.

8. ADDITIONS - NONE

9. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next meeting of the Dangerous or Unsightly Premises Committee is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 19, 2008 in Halifax Hall, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Melody Campbell
Legislative Assistant