

POINT PLEASANT PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

June 6, 2013

PRESENT: Mr. Duncan Morum, Chair
Mr. Don Awalt, Vice Chair
Ms. Lisa Olie
Mr. Aaron Windsor
Ms. Helen Sinclair

REGRETS: Ms. Nancy Vanstone
Ms. Vanessa Lilly
Mr. Will Gregory
Councillor Wayne Mason

STAFF: Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor of Major Parks
Mr. John Simmons, Acting Superintendent of Parks
Ms. Julie Vandervoort, Legislative Support
Mr. Ted Aubut, Legislative Assistant
Mr. Mike Gillett, HRM Special Events
Mr. Jamie MacLellan, HRM Public Art Facilitator

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 2, 2013

MOVED by Ms. Sinclair, seconded by Mr. Windsor that the minutes of May 2, 2013 be approved, as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

The Committee agreed that it would hear item 4.4 first, followed by item 6.1 and item 4.3 and then return to the scheduled Order of Business.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES/STAFF UPDATES

4.1 Update from Stephen Rice, Supervisor of Major Parks

This was discussed later in the meeting. Please see page 4.

4.2 Update from John Simmons, Acting Superintendent of Parks

This was discussed later in the meeting. Please see page 4.

4.3 Update from Jamie MacLellan, Public Art Facilitator regarding Artist-in-Residence Program

This was discussed later in the meeting. Please see page 4.

4.4 Update from Aaron Windsor regarding Shilling Ceremony

Mr. Windsor informed the Committee (PPPAC) that invitations to the ceremony have been sent and eight confirmations have been received to date. He added that he is preparing a draft programme, that Parks Canada has offered to assist with an historical animator and that he is looking into the possibility of attendance by cadets and a marching band. Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor of Major Parks, offered the use of A-frame signs to direct visitors to the event and his assistance with any vehicle permits necessary for the Lieutenant-Governor or others. Mr. Ted Aubut, Legislative Assistant, and Mr. Mike Gillett, HRM Special Events, agreed to work with Mr. Windsor on communications and the process to rent awnings and arrange refreshments. Ms. Olie offered to assist with seating and with protocol. Mr. Windsor agreed that, during the event, he would take charge of the shilling to be used in the ceremony.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS -- NONE

This was addressed later in the meeting. Please refer to page 5.

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

6.1 Presentation from Mi'kmaq Native Friendship Centre regarding sculpture proposed for the Park

Mrs. Pam Glode-Desrochers, Executive Director of the Mi'kmaq Native Friendship Centre, explained to the Committee that there is unanimous support from provincial Mi'kmaw Chiefs for a sculpture/commemoration of Mi'kmaq heritage in the Park. She conveyed the request that the artistic concept for the memorial be designed by a Mi'kmaq artist, who would collaborate with other artists as necessary depending on the materials chosen. She offered her assistance to HRM staff to develop a RFP (request for proposals) and then to establish a working group, in consultation with the Chiefs, to choose the artist. She emphasized that she would act as liaison to keep the Chiefs, and the Assembly of First Nations, informed throughout the various steps of the project. Mr. Jamie MacLellan, HRM Public Art Facilitator, offered to assist with the RFP and the overall project. Mr. John Simmons, Acting Superintendent of Parks, noted that he would clarify funding information with Mr. Peter Bigelow, Manager, Real Property Planning. Mr. Awalt provided, for new Committee members, a brief background on the Mi'kmaq heritage in the Park and the support for a commemoration as outlined in the Point Pleasant Park Comprehensive Plan. He offered to be Ms. Glode-Desrochers' PPPAC contact and to assist her with the setting of memorial criteria.

4.3 Update from Jamie MacLellan, Public Art Facilitator regarding Artist-in-Residence Program

Mr. MacLellan described the Park artist-in-residence program and introduced Ms. D'Arcy Wilson, one of the two current artists. He added that Ms. Sarah Burwash, the other artist, was unable to attend this meeting. Ms. Wilson circulated a description of her project "Recalling Your Presence While Calling Your Name". She noted that the schedule for one of her events might overlap with the Shilling Ceremony and offered to adjust the timing. Committee members suggested that organizers for both events, and HRM staff, could collaborate on a co-promotion.

The Committee then returned to the scheduled order of business.

4.1 Update from Stephen Rice, Supervisor of Major Parks

Mr. Rice informed the Committee that Parks Canada has updated its website regarding the Prince of Wales Tower and he has linked the Point Pleasant Park website to that update. He added that the plaques on the Halifax Memorial are being removed and redone, that there is information about this posted at the site and on the Park website. The process should be completed by September 2013. In response to a question about

signage, he stated that the new signage is 90 per cent complete, with three new sign posts scheduled to be installed. He added that he would check his notes from the walkabout about sign consistency and the possibility of placing additional detail about Park by-laws on the back side of the major sign at the Park entrance.

4.2 Update from John Simmons, Acting Superintendent of Parks

Mr. Simmons provided an update on the process to manage Park assets and stated that there have been no decisions finalized on capital projects. He informed the Committee that HRM staff could work with volunteers to do a clicker survey but there was not sufficient funding available otherwise for staff to conduct the survey. The Chair referred to the Comprehensive Plan and the intent to review both the Plan itself after five years and also the physical regeneration of the Park post Hurricane Juan. Mr. Simmons responded that a key staff member, knowledgeable about Park regeneration, was on sabbatical. He concluded his update by noting that he had conveyed the enforcement concerns of PPPAC to the Off-Lease Committee but that Committee was not in favour of adjusting the amount of fines while issuing an increased number of tickets.

4.5 Update from Chair regarding presentation to Halifax & West Community Council (HWCC)

The Chair described the presentation, noting that he and three other PPPAC members (Ms. Olie, Ms. Vanstone and Mr. Awalt) had attended the May meeting of the Halifax & West Community Council. He noted that he felt HWCC was receptive but did not engage in a process to endorse the survey recommendations on awareness and enforcement of Park rules. The Chair agreed to work with Mr. Aubut on a follow-up letter to HWCC that will emphasize the recommendations.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS -- NONE

7. REPORTS -- NONE

8. ADDED ITEMS -- NONE

9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION -- NONE

10. NEXT MEETING – July 4, 2013

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6.15 p.m.

Julie Vandervoort
Legislative Support