

POINT PLEASANT PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

March 7, 2013

PRESENT: Mr. Duncan Morum, Chair
Mr. Don Awalt, Vice Chair
Ms. Lisa Olie
Ms. Vanessa Lilly
Mr. Aaron Windsor
Councillor Wayne Mason

REGRETS: Ms. Nancy Vanstone
Ms. Helen Sinclair

STAFF: Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor of Major Parks
Ms. Julie Vandervoort, Legislative Support
Mr. Matt Godwin, Legislative Assistant
Mr. John Simmons, Acting Superintendent of Parks
Ms. Andrea MacDonald, License Services

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CALL TO ORDER.....	3
2.	ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR	3
3.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 14, 2013.....	3
4.	APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS.....	3
5.	BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES/STAFF UPDATES.....	3
5.1	Business Arising	3
5.1.1	2013 Meeting Schedule	3
5.2	Staff Updates	4
5.2.1	PPAC Procedure Guidance	4
5.2.2	Mr. Rice – Update	4
6.	CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS.....	4
6.1	Mi'kmaq Warrior Sculpture.....	4
7.	CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS	4
7.1	Correspondence	4
7.2	Petitions -- None	5
7.3	Presentations.....	5
7.3.1	Animal Control – Ms. Andrea MacDonald, License Services	5
8.	REPORTS	5
8.1	Point Pleasant Park Society – Mr. Aaron Windsor	5
9.	ADDED ITEMS	6
9.1	Other By-law Infractions.....	6
10.	NEXT MEETING DATE – April 4, 2013	6
11.	ADJOURNMENT	6

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m. He welcomed Ms. Lilly and invited members and staff to introduce themselves.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

The Chair stepped down and the Legislative Support opened the floor for nominations for the position of Chair.

MOVED by Mr. Awalt, seconded by Ms. Olie that Mr. Morum be nominated as Chair.

There being no further nominations, the **MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED.**

Mr. Morum assumed the Chair and called for nominations for Vice Chair.

MOVED by Ms. Olie, seconded by Ms. Lilly that Mr. Awalt be nominated as Vice Chair.

There being no further nominations, the **MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED.**

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 14, 2013

MOVED by Mr. Windsor, seconded by Mr. Awalt that the minutes of February 14, 2013 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

The Committee agreed that the Order of Business be approved as presented.

5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES/STAFF UPDATES

5.1 Business Arising

5.1.1 2013 Meeting Schedule

The Committee agreed to the 2013 meeting schedule as presented. Mr. Matt Godwin, Legislative Assistant noted that he would arrange for the new meeting dates to be posted on the HRM and Point Pleasant Park websites.

5.2 Staff Updates

5.2.1 PPPAC Procedure Guidance

Mr. Godwin explained the mandate, procedures and operations cycle of the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee and how recommendations are brought forward to Community Council or Regional Council.

5.2.2 Mr. Rice – Update

Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor of Major Parks, informed the Committee of updates to the Park website, including the posting of the Park user survey data. He added that the Google Maps data on the Park was now available, that new Park signage was being completed and that Park staff were concentrating on road repair. In response to questions, he explained that during winter storms extra debris may wash up on Black Rock Beach and that a recent such event had been cleaned up. He added that the beach is checked approximately every two weeks in winter but every day in summer.

The Committee discussed conducting a brief “flag-the-poop” awareness initiative. Mr. Rice agreed to implement this in the next week or so, staff resources permitting.

Mr. Rice and Mr. John Simmons, Acting Superintendent of Parks, discussed the issue of shore erosion and the deterioration of the Point Pleasant Battery (a federal property). Committee members pointed out that while the Battery is fenced and a sign prohibits walking on it, some Park users, especially children, continue to do so and an injury could result. In addition, the Committee notes, this misuse may contribute to the deterioration. Mr. Rice agreed that he would look into this matter with Legal Services. Mr. Simmons concluded the staff update by informing the Committee that the Capital Works budget approvals would not be finalized by the April PPPAC meeting.

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS

6.1 Mi'kmaq Warrior Sculpture

Mr. Godwin noted that Mrs. Pam Glode-Desrochers, Executive Director of the Mi'kmaq Native Friendship Centre, had informed him that the earliest PPPAC meeting she could attend would be June 2013. Mr. Godwin confirmed that he would invite Mrs. Glode-Desrochers to the June meeting.

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence

The Chair noted that he had received a letter, dated March 1, 2013, from Mr. Max Rastelli, Segway Nova Scotia, proposing a second pilot project in the Park. The

Committee agreed that the Chair would respond to Mr. Rastelli's letter and would invite him to bring the details of his proposal to a PPPAC meeting.

7.2 Petitions -- None

7.3 Presentations

7.3.1 Animal Control – Ms. Andrea MacDonald, License Services

Ms. MacDonald informed the Committee that the statistics she had provided to the Committee were drawn from complaint calls to 490-4000 (now 311). Committee members expressed concern about the discrepancy between the statistics and their own experiences in the Park as well as the public perception of animal control issues. Ms. MacDonald agreed that the number of patrols were done in the past year due to staffing, that staff were not able to patrol pro-actively, nor is there a set patrol schedule, but rather that patrols go out when alerted to a problem. Ms. MacDonald emphasized that there is no directive from her office not to issue tickets, that tickets are automatic if a dog is not licensed (if the owner licenses the dog within 48 hours, the ticket is withdrawn). She added that for other offenses, it is the patrol officer's discretion to issue a ticket or a warning. Ms. MacDonald agreed to look at her staff schedule, choose some time slots when the Park is busy, and do an animal by-law enforcement campaign. She agreed to bring the results of the campaign back to the Committee for the May 2013 PPPAC meeting.

8. REPORTS

8.1 Point Pleasant Park Society – Mr. Aaron Windsor

A draft document created by Mr. Windsor and titled "By-Laws of the Point Pleasant Park Society" was circulated to the Committee by email on March 6, 2013.

Mr. Windsor explained that he has examined what some other cities do in terms of endowed park foundations that can fundraise for ongoing improvements and maintenance; the City Parks Foundation of NYC was given as an example. He added that he was interested founding a similar, wholly independent Not-for-Profit for the benefit of Point Pleasant Park. As some Committee members had not had the opportunity to review the document, he invited the Committee to bring suggestions to the April 2013 PPPAC meeting.

The Chair suggested that Mr. Windsor provide a cover letter for his document that sets out the context and that he meet with the Friends of Point Pleasant Park to see where their interests may converge. Mr. Godwin explained that PPPAC could appoint a sub-committee for a specific purpose but there was otherwise no mechanism for the Committee to create another structure. Mr. Windsor explained that he wishes to found a wholly independent Not-for-Profit and not a sub-committee; the Point Pleasant Park

Society will be unaffiliated with the HRM political structure. Mr. Windsor agreed to provide a cover letter detailing his plan for the April PPPAC meeting.

9. ADDED ITEMS

9.1 Other By-law Infractions

The Chair requested that the matter of other by-law enforcement concerns (bicycles, camping) be placed on the April 2013 PPPAC agenda .

10. NEXT MEETING DATE – April 4, 2013

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Julie Vandervoort
Legislative Assistant