

**REGIONAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Wednesday, March 26, 2008**

PRESENT: Mr. Fred Morley, Chair
Councillor David Hendsbee, Vice-Chair
Ms. Cheryl Newcombe
Ms. Bonnie Ryan
Ms. Margo Grant
Mr. Robert Batherson
Ms. Heather Bown

UDTF PRESENT: Ms. Dale Godsoe - Chair
Mr. Paul MacKinnon - Vice - Chair
Mr. Bernie Smith - Business Community

REGRETS: Councillor Gloria McCluskey
Mr. Paul Pettipas

STAFF: Mr. Roger Wells, Supervisor, Regional & Community Planning
Mr. Andy Fillmore, HRMbyDesign Project Manager
Ms. Jacqueline Hamilton, HRM Manager of Heritage & Design
Mr. Austin French, HRM Project Manager, Regional Planning
Ms. Sandra T. Riley, Legislative Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CALL TO ORDER	3
2.	APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - None	3
3.	APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS	3
4.	BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES	3
5.	CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS:	3
6.	CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS	
7.	REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS	
7.1	HRM Climate SMART Climate Change Risk Management Strategy - Comments from Committee on CD circulated by Mr. Stephen King	3
7.2.	HRMbyDesign - Chair and Vice-Chair of Urban Design Task Force - discussion	
7.2.1	Draft Downtown Halifax Secondary Planning Strategy - March 26, 2008	4
7.2.2	Downtown Halifax Land Use Bylaw Fact Sheet (LUB)	4
7.2.3	Summary of Regional Plan Amendments	5
8.	NEW BUSINESS	6
9.	ADDED ITEMS:	6
10.	DATE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING - April 16, 2008	6
11.	ADJOURNMENT	6

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:17 pm in the Helen Creighton Room, Alderney Gate Library.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - None

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

The Committee agreed that the order of business and approval of additions and deletions be approved, as presented.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - None

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - None

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS - None

6.1 Correspondence - None

6.2 Petitions - None

6.3 Delegations - None

7. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

7.1 HRM Climate SMART Climate Change Risk Management Strategy - Comments from Committee on CD circulated by Mr. Stephen King

MOVED by Mr. Batherson, seconded by Ms. Newcombe, that the Regional Planning Advisory Committee forward a recommendation to Regional Council to endorse the Climate Change Risk Management Strategy as a climate change impact reference and resource document towards the development of the *Potential Hazards to Development Functional Plan*. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7.2 HRMbyDesign - Chair and Vice-Chair of Urban Design Task Force - discussion

Ms. Dale Godsoe - Chair of the Urban Design Task Force, introduced herself, the Vice-Chair - Mr. Paul MacKinnon, and Mr. Bernie Smith - UDTF member and Business Community, to the Regional Planning Advisory Committee.

Mr. Fillmore advised that the purpose today was to introduce the Regional Planning Advisory Committee to the documents: "Draft Downtown Halifax Municipal Secondary Planning Strategy", "Downtown Halifax Land Use Bylaw Fact Sheet", and the "Summary

of Regional Plan Amendments” with the explanations of each document as stated below:

7.2.1 Draft Downtown Halifax Secondary Planning Strategy - March 26, 2008

The above mentioned document gave in depth clarification on the following topics from its Table of Contents:

1. Introduction
2. Downtown Halifax Urban Design Vision and Principles
3. Urban Design and Precinct Framework
4. Heritage Conservation
5. Economic Development
6. Public Realm
7. Transportation
8. Implementation

The Draft Downtown Halifax Secondary Planning Strategy document replaces the current Municipal Planning Strategy for the Downtown Halifax study area and brings it into the language of HRM by Design and the Form Based and Design Based approaches. It sets policies for the quantitative (height, massing) and qualitative (design, materials, public space requirements) elements of development.

Mr. Fillmore supplied more detail to the chapters outlined in this document, and responded to questions and concerns from the Committee for clarification. The Committee will review this document in preparation for the joint meeting with the Urban Design Task Force and the Steering Committee on April 02, 2008.

7.2.2 Downtown Halifax Land Use Bylaw Fact Sheet (LUB)

The Downtown Halifax Land Use Bylaw Fact Sheet has been created to summarize the highly technical LUB and will be available for the public meetings. The document covers the following topics:

- Introduction
- General Approach
- Design Manual
- Overall Building & Streetwall Heights
- Heritage Protection
- Land Uses
- Signs
- Parking
- Development Approvals Process
- Incentive Bonus System
- Significant Changes

7.2.3 Summary of Regional Plan Amendments

The Summary of Regional Plan Amendments is a memorandum prepared for the Regional

Plan Advisory Committee. The RPAC's role is to review only those aspects of the project that result in Regional Plan amendments.

Following the presentations, a lengthy discussion ensued with Mr. Fillmore responding to questions and concerns of the Committee for clarification, including the following topics:

- Terms of Reference
- The Appeal Process
- Transportation
- Wind Studies
- A third map with View Planes
- Density
- Environmental Sustainability
- 3-dimensional model

The joint meeting of April 02, 2008 will allow time for the Urban Design Task Force and the Regional Plan Advisory Committee to review all of the above listed documents for further discussion and a decision on whether to sign-off on the Secondary Planning Strategy and the Land Use Bylaw for Halifax Downtown.

Regarding the Public Consultations, Mr. Fillmore advised the following:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| April 7 | Circulate Plan for Bylaw for Public Comment |
| April 16 | UDTF Public Open House at the World Trade & Convention Centre |
| April 17 | Public Meeting for Barrington HCD |
| April 23 | Last day to receive written Public Comments |
| April 28 | Finalize Response to Public Comments Document |
| May 7 | Joint Meeting UDTF and RPAC in Halifax Hall, 11 am to 2 pm for final recommendations. |

Mr. Fillmore stipulated that the Task Force will approve the SPS, the Design Manual and the LUB, and that RPAC is required for approval of the amendments to the Regional Plan.

- | | |
|---------|--|
| May 27 | 1 st Reading Regional Council |
| June 24 | Public Hearing |
| July 08 | Adoption of Final Plan At Regional Council |

Cheryl Newcombe retired from the meeting at 5:14 pm.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Halifax Dartmouth Bridge Commission (HDBC)- presentation on Consultants' findings

Councillor Hendsbee and Mr. Wells advised that the Committee request a presentation from the Halifax Dartmouth Bridge Commission (HDBC) on the consultant's findings regarding the 'third crossing' and the implications on the Regional Plan.

9. ADDED ITEMS

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Regional Plan Advisory Committee has a joint meeting with the Urban Design Task Force on April 02, 2008.

The next regular meeting of the Regional Plan Advisory Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, April 16, 2008.

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:18 pm.

Sandra T. Riley
Legislative Assistant