

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

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HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
MINUTES

June 22, 2010

PRESENT: Mayor Peter Kelly  
Councillors: Steve Streach  
Barry Dalrymple  
David Hendsbee  
Lorelei Nicoll  
Gloria McCluskey  
Darren Fisher  
Bill Karsten  
Jackie Barkhouse  
Jim Smith  
Mary Wile  
Jerry Blumenthal  
Dawn Sloane  
Sue Uteck  
Jennifer Watts  
Russell Walker  
Debbie Hum  
Linda Mosher  
Stephen Adams  
Robert Harvey  
Tim Outhit  
Peter Lund  
Reg Rankin

REGRETS: Deputy Mayor Brad Johns

STAFF: Mr. Wayne Anstey, Acting Chief Administrative Officer  
Ms. Mary Ellen Donovan, Municipal Solicitor  
Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk  
Ms. Melody Campbell, Legislative Assistant

1.	CALL TO ORDER. ....	3
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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m.

Due to time constraints, discussion ensued among Council regarding deferring Phase 1 Recommendation - District Boundary Review from June 22, 2010 Regional Council to a future meeting.

**MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Blumenthal that Phase 1 Recommendation - District Boundary Review be deferred to July 6, 2010.**

**MOTION PUT AND DEFEATED.**

**MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Karsten that Phase 1 Recommendation - District Boundary Review be deferred to June 29, 2010.**

Discussion ensued among Council regarding a start time if the Phase 1 Recommendation - District Boundary Review were to be addressed on Tuesday, June 29, 2010.

**MOTION PUT AND DEFEATED.**

Upon further discussion, Mayor Kelly advised Council that staff will check Councillors' calendars and determine a date and time for Council to address Phase 1 Recommendation - District Boundary Review.

Council agreed to defer that Phase 1 Recommendation - District Boundary Review from the June 22, 2010 Regional Council agenda to a future meeting of Council.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - None**

**3. 4Pad ARENA - COMMUNITY ACCESS PLAN**

- A presentation, HRM 4-Pad Arena Community Access Plan, was before Council.
- An information report dated May 28, 2010 was before Council.

Correspondence was received from: Blair Parker, Alan Saade, Dawn Kerwin, Donna Flynn, Christi Cooze, Derek Ferguson, Doris Friis, Paul Patey, Lisa Wiper, Angela Malcolm, Susan Mader Zinck, Sherry Webb, Alan MacDonald, Leslie Crossley, Kelly Capstick, Major GP Hatcher, Colleen S. McKenzie FCIP, Dawn Puma, David Clarke, Mike Langille, Bruce Jarvis, Karen Gesner, Denise Snow, Patti Brown, Shawn White,

Leeann Riley, Paul Mason, Paul Cox, B. Degaust, Pam Wheatley, Tom Miller, Gordon Allen, Vincent B. Reilly & family, Darlene Churney, Glenn Jones.

Discussion regarding the 4Pad Arena - Community Access Plan is a continuation from the June 15, 2010 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mr. Paul Dunphy, Director, Community Development and Mr. Bennett Sproule, Nustadia Recreation Inc., provided a presentation, HRM 4Pad Arena Ice Allocation Policy. Mr. Dunphy advised that this ice allocation policy is for the HRM 4Pad Arena only.

Mr. Dunphy provided clarification of a slide on the presentation, HRM 4Pad Arena Ice Allocation Policy as noted:

4Pad Ice Allocation Policy

- Guidelines for allocation
  - no **less** than 50% to affiliated
  - no more than 15% for public programming
  - no more than 35% organized adult programs

Following the presentation, the following discussion ensued among Council.

In response to a question by Mayor Kelly, Mr. Sproule advised that the facility would host no more than six tournaments a year that would affect prime time hours. He added that hours would be facilitated outside of prime time as much as possible.

In response to a question by Councillor Dalrymple, Mr. Dunphy advised that the contract completion date is November 2, 2010. He added that the arena may open before that time, but as November 2, 2010 is the contract completion date an earlier opening date cannot be confirmed. Mr. Dunphy advised that staff are working with arena operators and sport groups regarding the facilitation of ice time and the potential release of ice time hours at other HRM arenas.

Councillor Hum expressed her appreciation for ice time for women's sport including hockey. She advised that staff has to consider equity for all users. She noted that there will be a domino affect in arenas as the 4Pad opens. She stated that staff must consider and promote non-prime time ice rentals.

Councillor Mosher stated that HRM needs to consider a Regional Ice Allocation Policy with one standard for all arenas. She noted that the 4Pad Arena is a regional facility and should accommodate all HRM residents. She expressed concern that the Atlantic Hockey Group is a for profit company and questioned how this group could affect individuals or individual teams or leagues requesting ice time. Mr. Dunphy advised that HRM advertised for adults looking for ice time and, at that time, nobody came forward.

He stated that teams or leagues do not have to join the Atlantic Hockey Group adding that time can be made available for individual leagues.

Councillor Fisher advised that all stakeholders need to be included in the process. He added that many organizations have not been consulted nor involved in the 4Pad ice allocation process. He advised that he does not agree that Bedford Minor Hockey should be permitted to cancel fifty-five hours of ice time at the Rocky Lake Dome and be given that time at the 4Pad Arena.

Councillor Watts suggested that HRM consider the Ice Allocation Policy for the 4Pad arena and review it after a year to determine its effectiveness. She added that staff have to consider local and regional play while taking into consideration environmental impacts on travel and arena use.

In response to a question by Councillor Lund, Mr. Sproule advised that the proposed ice allocation is approximately 85% complete although it is subject to change. Mr. Dunphy advised that increased communication to Council and user groups is required.

Council recessed at 2:55 p.m.  
Council reconvened at 3:16 p.m.

Councillor Harvey advised Council that the 4Pad Arena is a good news story. He advised staff that when determining allocations, full consultations need to be part of the process.

Councillor Nicoll suggested that the Cole Harbour organizations be involved in allocation discussions. Mr. Dunphy advised that Hockey Nova Scotia has been working with HRM throughout the process, noting that Hockey Nova Scotia follows the same standards for fair play as Hockey Canada.

In response to a question by Councillor Wile, Mr. Sproule advised that users are not permitted to bring alcohol in to the facility. He added that Nustadia Recreation Inc. will be permitted to sell alcohol on site. In response to a query by the Councillor, Mr. Sproule stated that when tournaments are planned, staff will try to accommodate displaced users by finding ice time at different times or at different facilities. He advised that regular users will be made aware of upcoming tournaments, as tournaments are scheduled approximately six months in advance. The Councillor suggested that staff meet with arena managers to receive input on a future Regional Ice Allocation Policy.

Councillor McCluskey stressed the need for more consultation encompassing all areas of HRM as the facility is a regional facility. She added that she is not in favour of a commercial business, such as the Atlantic Hockey Group, distributing arena ice to users. Mr. Dunphy advised that the Atlantic Hockey Group is an organization working to

organize men's leagues and he added that ice time will be available for other groups as well.

Councillor Adams expressed concern regarding the ice time hours allocated to the Bedford area noting that the 4Pad was to be a regional facility. He added that Bedford Minor Hockey will now be at fair play and other organizations are well below the fair play level due lack of access to ice time. The Councillor added that Bedford Minor Hockey should not leave the Rocky Lake Dome, and he noted that Bedford Minor Hockey still maintains hours at Lebrun Arena in Bedford. He suggested that Bedford Minor Hockey be allocated prime time hours only at two of the four ice pads.

**MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Mosher that staff allocate no more than the equivalent of two ice sheets, in prime time, to Bedford Minor Hockey and to bring back a revised allocation policy to allow more equitable access to minor hockey leagues in HRM at the 4Pad Arena.**

Mr. Dunphy advised that a lot of the allotted ice time for Bedford includes ringette and figure skating as well as Bedford Minor Hockey. He added that Bedford Minor Hockey is utilizing slightly less than two ice surfaces in the 4Pad. Mr. Dunphy advised that Bedford Minor Hockey is not yet meeting the standards of fair play.

Councillor Karsten advised that the issue with the 4Pad ice time allocation is the implementation process. Mr. Dunphy advised, when discussing ice time for Dartmouth organizations, that Dartmouth is not known to be a disadvantaged group. He added that staff are still allocating ice time, so there may be additional time for other groups and he noted that the domino effect may have a positive impact regarding ice time for Dartmouth.

In response to a question by Councillor Smith, Mr. Dunphy advised that a Committee has been formed, and is expected to convene later in the summer, to assist with the facilitation of the Long Term Arena Strategy. He advised that staff continue to do background analysis on arena needs and the condition of HRM owned arenas.

Councillor Walker added that it is premature to state that HRM needs more arenas until the Long Time Arena Strategy is completed. He stated that HRM needs to promote access to non-prime time hours, as prime time hours cannot financially support an arena. Mr. Sproule advised, in response to a question by Councillor Walker, that two ice pads are currently fully booked, with a portion of the third ice pad booked. Mr. Sproule added that events, such as shows, are part of future plans. He noted that four beach court volleyball courts will be set up over summer months. Councillor Walker noted that the increase over the youth rate is \$45.00 not \$65.00 and suggested that if ice time is not being used by youth, it be allocated to other users.

Councillor Blumenthal advised the all sport groups should be invited to discuss ice time allocation.

Councillor Uteck stated that the 4Pad will be a benefit when it opens in the fall.

Councillor Outhit advised that 4Pad Arena users will be from all over HRM. He added that he supports the need for arenas in HRM adding that the next arena will be built in another community. He stated that building a 4Pad makes good economics when considering the operational efficiencies of a multi-pad arena. He expressed his appreciation to Council for their continued support in the project.

Mr. Dunphy advised that prime time is considered 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Monday to Friday and 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

In response to a question by Councillor Karsten, Mr. Dunphy advised that staff will contact the Dartmouth Whalers to discuss ice time on the 4Pad arena.

Mr. Dunphy advised that staff will continue to meet with organizations and minor sport associations regarding ice time allocations. He added that the presentation, *HRM 4Pad Arena Ice Allocation Policy*, will be made available on the HRM website.

Councillor Dalrymple suggested that HRM staff work with the staff of the Rocky Lake Dome when facilitating ice time.

#### **MOTION PUT AND DEFEATED.**

**MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Rankin that Halifax Regional Council adopt the Community Access Plan for the 4Pad Arena as outlined in the staff report of May 28, 2010. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Council provided direction to staff to facilitate the release of hours book in other arenas; that as a condition of booking 4Pad arena hours, the hours not required in the other arenas be released to that facility for reallocation, with confirmation of same.

#### **4. CAPITAL IDEAS - LEVERAGING URBAN INVESTMENT FOR REGIONAL PROSPERITY**

**MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Mosher, that Capital Ideas - Leveraging Urban Investment for Regional Prosperity be deferred to the June 22, 2010 Regional Council agenda. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Cathy J. Mellett  
Municipal Clerk