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Item No. 2
Harbour East Community Council
May 5, 2011

TO: Harbour East Community Council

SUBMITTED BY: 
for: Councillor Gloria McCluskey, Chair, Harbour East Community Council

DATE: April 1, 2011

SUBJECT: Harbour East Community Council Annual Report 2010

2010 ANNUAL REPORT

ORIGIN

Section 27(1) of the HRM Charter states:

A community council shall hold an annual public meeting in the community in each year to report to the public concerning its activities and to receive the views of the public respecting all matters within its mandate.

At the May 6, 2010 Harbour East Community Council meeting, Councillor McCluskey raised this section of the Charter with members and it was agreed that an annual meeting would be held for 2010.

BACKGROUND

Harbour East Community Council (HECC) was established in May 1996 with the adoption of Administrative Order Number Four- The Harbour East Community Council Administrative Order.

HECC includes the following polling districts:

- District 4 - Cole Harbour (Councillor Lorelei Nicoll)
- District 5 - Dartmouth Centre (Councillor Gloria McCluskey)
- District 6 - East Dartmouth - The Lakes (Councillor Darren Fisher)
- District 7 - Portland - East Woodlawn (Councillor Bill Karsten)
- District 8 - Woodside - Eastern Passage (Councillor Jackie Barkhouse)
- District 9 - Albro Lake – Harbourview (Deputy Mayor Jim Smith)

DISCUSSION

Harbour East Community Council met a total of 16 times in 2010, including 12 regular monthly meetings and four special meetings.

The following will highlight Harbour East Community Council's business for the 2010 calendar year.

Correspondence:

- **Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission – Sculpture Park, Dartmouth Waterfront**
On August 5, 2010 correspondence was received from the Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission proposing a sculpture park in downtown Dartmouth. Community Council approved a motion to approve in principle the initiation of a process to develop the Dartmouth Waterfront Park as a Sculpture Park, subject to the creation of a public/private partnership committee under HRM existing guidelines; and request that staff provide a report in this regards.

Presentations:

- **Crosswalk Flags & Pedestrian Safety**
On February 4, 2010 Mr. Norm Collins provided a presentation to Community Council on Crosswalk Flags & Pedestrian Safety.
Staff provided an information report on this matter on April 1, 2010.
- **HRM's District Boundary Review**
On March 4, 2010 HRM staff provided a presentation on the District Boundary Review. Following the presentation, members of the public provided comment on the review.
- **Bridge Transit Terminal**
On April 1, 2010, Mr. Troy Scott, Sperry & Partners, provided a presentation on the proposed Bridge Transit Terminal plans.

Staff Reports:

- **Case 01291: Cole Harbour Road Planning and Street Improvement Process**
Staff recommendation approved on January 14, 2010.
- **Information Item – Case 01363: Dartmouth Land Use By-law Amendment – Excluding Tattoo Businesses as Home Occupations**
On January 14, 2010, Community Council agreed that staff move forward with the Public Information Meeting as presented in the Information Report.
- **Sound Barrier Fence – Woodland Avenue**
Information received on January 14, 2010. Item removed from the status sheet.
- **Street Parking Close to Nova Scotia Community College**
Information report received February 4, 2010. Further information requested, item to remain on status sheet.
Update provided on April 1, 2010 that a meeting was held with stakeholders and a report was pending. To remain on the status sheet.

- **Case 15788: Amendment to Regional Subdivision By-law**
Staff recommendation approved on March 4, 2010.
- **Case 15909: Amendments to the Dartmouth Land Use By-law**
This information report received on March 4, 2010. No action required.
- **Tender 09-289, MRIF – Dartmouth Harbourfront Trail**
On April 1, 2010, Community Council approved a motion recommending that Regional Council authorize allocation of seventy five thousand dollars from Capital Account Number CSE00397 “Dartmouth Community Integration Fund” for the Parker Street Retainer Wall portion of the Dartmouth Harbourfront Trail as outlined in the Budget Implications section of the report dated February 20, 2010.
- **Water Quality Monitoring for Russell Lake – March 2010 Sampling Event**
Information report received May 6, 2010. No action required.
- **Dartmouth Lakes Advisory Board – Annual Report**
Information report received May 6, 2010. No action required.
- **Case 01338: Burnside Functional Plan Implementation**
Information report received on June 10, 2010. No action required at this time.
- **Case 15781 – Irishtown Road MPS Amendment Request, Downtown Dartmouth**
Staff recommendation approved on September 16, 2010.
On October 4, 2010 Community Council approved a motion requesting that Regional Council approve the proposed amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law for Downtown Dartmouth as contained in Attachments A and B of the staff report dated August 6, 2010.
- **Case 15787: MPS Amendments and Amending Agreement – Russell Lake West**
At the November 4, 2010 meeting this item was deferred to a future meeting.
- **Case 16032: Development Agreement – 613 Main Street, Westphal**
Staff recommendation approved on December 2, 2010.
- **Dartmouth North Community Centre Operational Review**
Information report received December 2, 2010. No action required.

Members of Council:

- **Harbour East Community Council donation to District 2 Community Centre Fire – Deputy Mayor Smith**
On January 14, 2010, Community Council requested a letter be sent to Councillor Dalrymple advising of Harbour East Community Council’s available funds to assist with the rebuild of the Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre.
- **Tax Reform – Councillor McCluskey**
On January 14, 2010, Council expressed their support of the news release of January 14, 2010 by Harbour East Community Council against current proposals for Tax Reform.
- **Parking on Residential Streets Close to Nova Scotia Community College – Councillor Barkhouse**
On February 4, 2010, Community Council approved a motion to request additional information (further to the information report received on this date) to

include solutions to alleviate the parking problems on residential streets close to the Nova Scotia Community College, and further, for staff to initiate a meeting with the stakeholders including the Traffic Authority and the Nova Scotia Community College to work toward a resolution.

On May 6, 2010, an information report was received. Item to remain on the status sheet.

On June 10, 2010 an information report was received. Item removed from the status sheet.

- **Composition of the boundaries of the Harbour East Community Council – Deputy Mayor Smith**

On February 4, 2010, Community Council approved a motion to forward a report to Regional Council with regard to ensuring that HECC has adequate representation on HRM Boards & Committees. It was suggested that either two separate community councils could be created for Districts 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, or that two HECC members be eligible to sit on HRM Boards and Committees due to the number of Councillors (6) on HECC.

- **Regulations for Quonset huts & temporary garages – Councillor Nicoll**

On April 1, 2010 Community Council approved a motion requesting a staff report providing information on regulations relating to Quonset huts and temporary garages.

On June 10, 2010 an information report was received. Additional information is required and the item is to remain on the status sheet.

On July 8, 2010, Community Council approved a motion to request that staff open a case to consider amendments to the Cole Harbour/Westphal Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law in order to regulate the external appearance of Quonset huts.

- **Public Consultation – Hines Road/Howard Avenue – Rezoning Plan Amendment – Councillor Barkhouse**

On April 27, 2010, Community Council approved a motion requesting that staff give further consideration to additional public consultation regarding the Hines Road/Howard Avenue Rezoning Plan Amendment.

On August 5, 2010 staff advised that this matter is being considered by the applicant. Once a response has been received, public consultation will proceed.

An information report was received on November 4, 2010. Item removed from the status sheet.

- **Annual Report – Councillor McCluskey**

On May 6, 2010, Councillor McCluskey brought to the attention of members section 27(1) of the HRM Charter, which requires that an annual public meeting be held. Members agreed to hold an annual meeting for 2010.

- **Speed Bumps – Pelzant and John Street – Deputy Mayor Smith**

On June 10, 2010 Community Council approved a motion to request a staff report for information on installing speed bumps at the three way stop at the intersection of Pelzant Street and John Street in Dartmouth.

An information report was received on October 4, 2010 and this item was removed from the status sheet.

- **Land Use By-law Amendments – Larger Accessory Buildings – Councillor Nicoll**
On July 8, 2010 Community Council approved a motion requesting that staff initiate the process to allow larger accessory buildings on larger lots in Cole Harbour/Westphal and the Eastern Passage/Cow Bay non-serviced areas.
- **Review of Commercial Signs under the Land Use By-law for Downtown Dartmouth – Councillor McCluskey**
On August 5, 2010 Community Council approved a motion to request staff to undertake a review of the requirements for commercial signs under the Land Use By-law for Downtown Dartmouth, specifically regarding size, permitted materials and placement.
On September 16, 2010 an Information Report was received on this matter. Item to remain on the status sheet.
An information report was received on November 4, 2010. Item removed from the status sheet.
- **Overhead RA Crosswalk Lighting – Boland Road/Cairn Street – Deputy Mayor Smith**
On August 5, 2010 Community Council approved a motion requesting staff to provide a report regarding the installation of overhead RA crosswalk lighting at the intersection of Boland Road and Cairn Street, Dartmouth.
- **Mobile homes, trailers and boats: Private residential lots – Councillor Karsten**
On September 16, 2010 Community Council approved a motion to request a staff report on the land use issue surrounding the continuation or elimination of RVs, trailers, and boats to be allowed to permanently be parked on private residential lots.
Staff report received on November 4, 2010. Staff recommendation approved.
- **Traffic Light Adjustment – Lancaster Drive & Woodland Avenue – Deputy Mayor Smith**
On October 4, 2010 Community Council approved a motion requesting a staff report re: the adjustment of traffic lights at Lancaster Drive and Woodland Avenue so that there is always a left turn signal arrow available when turning left off Woodland Avenue onto Lancaster Drive.
An information report was received on December 2, 2010. Item removed from the status sheet.
- **Amendments to the Dartmouth MPS and LUB to require all applications for beverage rooms, lounges & cabarets – Deputy Mayor Smith**
On November 4, 2010 Community Council approved a motion to request a staff report on amendments to the Dartmouth Municipal Planning Strategy and/or Land Use By-law to require all applications for beverage rooms, lounges and cabarets to allow a development agreement process similar to that passed on October 19, 2010 by Regional Council for Quinpool Road.
- **Development Agreement Timelines – Councillor McCluskey**
On December 2, 2010, Community Council approved a motion requesting a staff report on the amount of time being approved, under development agreements, for

the “Commencement of Development” and “Completion of Development” with an emphasis on reducing the amount of time provided.

- **Urban Gardening – Councillor McCluskey**
On December 2, 2010 Community Council approved a motion requesting a staff report on urban gardening where the produce is generated and sold on properties that are zoned for residential.

Public Hearings:

- **Case 01346: Development Agreement – 657 Portland Street, Dartmouth**
First Reading given January 14, 2010.
Public Hearing held and closed on February 4, 2010.
On February 4, 2010, Community Council approved to approve the proposed development agreement as set out in Attachment A of the report dated December 16, 2009 to permit a neighbourhood convenience outlet use at 657 Portland Street, Dartmouth with an additional amendment to review driveway access to permit right on to and right out to Portland Street.
- **Case 15925: Amendment to Portland Hills Development Agreement – Additional Pylon Sign**
First Reading given on April 1, 2010.
Public hearing held and closed on May 6, 2010. Staff recommendation approved.
- **Case 15846: Excluding Tattoo Businesses as Home Occupations**
First Reading given on May 6, 2010.
Public hearing held and closed on June 10, 2010. Staff recommendation approved.
Motion approved to send a report to Regional Council recommending that Council request the Mayor to send a letter to the Province of Nova Scotia requesting regulations for tattoo businesses.
- **Case 15867: Rezoning of 385 and 387 Portland Street, Dartmouth**
First Reading given on May 6, 2010.
Public hearing held and closed on June 10, 2010. Staff recommendation approved.
- **Case 01361: MPS Amendment: Dartmouth Bridge Transit Terminal**
First Reading given on June 10, 2010.
Public hearing was held and closed on July 8, 2010. Staff recommendation approved.
- **Case 15991: Development Agreement – 1956 Shore Road, Eastern Passage**
First Reading given on July 8, 2010.
Public hearing held and closed on August 5, 2010.
Motion approved that Community Council approve the development agreement application for a multiple unit dwelling at 1956 Shore Road, Eastern Passage.
- **Case 15863 – Multiple Unit Dwelling, 185 Windmill Road, Dartmouth**
First Reading given on August 5, 2010.
Public hearing held and closed on September 16, 2010. Staff recommendation approved.
- **Case 15952: Development Agreement – Windmill Road, Dartmouth**
First Reading given on August 5, 2010.
Public hearing held and closed on October 4, 2010. Staff recommendation approved with amendments that Item 7.3.1 of the Development Agreement be

changed from “in the event development on the Lands has not commenced within 5 years” to 2 years and that the fence along the property be a six foot opaque wooden fence.

- **Case 16032: Development Agreement - 613 Main Street, Dartmouth**
First Reading given on August 5, 2010.
Public hearing held and closed on September 16, 2010. Staff recommendation approved.
- **Case 15841: Group Homes, Dartmouth**
First Reading given on October 4, 2010.
Public hearing held and closed on November 4, 2010. Staff recommendation approved.
- **Case 16480: Founders Corner Condominiums, Downtown Dartmouth**
First Reading given on October 19, 2010.
Public hearing held and closed on November 4, 2010. Staff recommendation approved.
- **Case 16161: Land Use By-law Amendment, 95 Circassion Drive**
First Reading given on November 4, 2010.
Public hearing held and closed on December 2, 2010. Staff recommendation approved.

Variance Hearings:

- **Variance Appeal: Two separate variances for 53 Government Wharf Road, Eastern Passage**
June 10, 2010: Variance hearing held and closed. Decision deferred to the October 2010 meeting.
On November 4, 2010 the appeal decision was again deferred to the April 2011 meeting.
- **Variance Appeal: Appeal of the Development Officer’s decision to refuse a Variance at 102 Melrose Crescent, Eastern Passage**
July 8, 2010: Community Council requested that staff prepare a report including information and pictures of neighbourhood decks that are non-conforming to the current land use by-law. Variance decision deferred to the September 16, 2010 meeting.
September 16, 2010: Variance hearing held and closed. Motion approved to overturn the decision of the Development Officer and approve the variance.
- **Variance Appeal: Appeal of the Development Officer’s decision to refuse an application for a Variance at 8 Shore Drive, Dartmouth**
September 16, 2010: Variance hearing held and closed. Motion approved to overturn the Development Officer’s decision and approve the variance with the provision in place that the building size is no larger than 21 feet by 38 feet.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

None associated with this report.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Project and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Project and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Harbour East Community Council meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month (unless otherwise stated) in the Council Chamber at 90 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth at 6:00 p.m. Meetings are open to the public and include an opportunity for Public Participation at the end of each meeting.

Minutes, agendas, and reports are available on the HRM website and from the Clerk's Office.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/agenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

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490-6517