

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

March 20, 2014

PRESENT: Councillor Lorelei Nicoll, Chair  
Councillor Wayne Mason, Vice Chair  
Councillor Jennifer Watts  
Councillor Gloria McCluskey  
Councillor Tim Outhit  
Deputy Mayor Darren Fisher

STAFF: Ms. Karen Brown, Senior Solicitor  
Mr. Mike Labrecque, Deputy CAO  
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CALL TO ORDER.....	3
2.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES .....	3
3.	APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS.....	3
4.	BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES .....	3
	4.1 Business Arising – Information Report on Youth Engagement .....	3
5.	CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS .....	4
	5.1 Correspondence .....	4
	5.2 Petitions .....	4
	5.3 Presentations.....	4
6.	MATTERS REFERRED FROM REGIONAL COUNCIL / OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES.....	4
7.	REPORTS.....	4
	7.1 Regional Centre Plan Project Next Steps .....	4
	7.2 Aquatic Needs Assessment – Eastern Region .....	6
	7.3 Dartmouth Sportsplex Revitalization Project.....	6
	7.4 Special Arts and Culture Advisory Committee Recommendations .....	8
8.	PRESENTATION REQUESTS: .....	9
9.	MOTIONS:.....	9
10.	ADDED ITEMS .....	9
	10.1 Councillor Nicoll – Request for Information Report – Scope and Review Process – Community Facility Master Plan.....	9
11.	IN CAMERA – None .....	10
12.	NEXT MEETING DATE: .....	10
13.	ADJOURNMENT .....	10

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 13, 2014**

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that the minutes of February 13, 2014 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Councillor Watts noted that at the last meeting, Councillor Mason had requested a presentation for this meeting from staff responsible for HRM's Parks, and the DCAO advised that he would arrange to have appropriate staff attend and provide a presentation. She asked that in order that this item isn't forgotten, that it be placed on the Status Sheet.

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

Additions:

- 10.1 Councillor Nicoll – Request for Information Report – Scope and Review Process – Community Facility Master Plan

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Watts that the agenda as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

**4.1 Business Arising – Information Report on Youth Engagement**

An Information Report dated January 7, 2014 was submitted.

Mr. Lee Moore, Acting Program Manager, and Mr. John Henry, Acting Manager, Community Recreation & Culture responded to questions from Committee members.

Councillor Watts noted that report presents the results of a youth survey and lists the top six issues for junior high and high school students. She advised that Councillors need to be cognizant of these when discussing facility development and issues around facilities.

In response, Mr. Moore noted that starting this summer staff intend to carry out further research in regard to the top issues that students have identified.

Councillor McCluskey referred to the Jumpstart/Red Kids Program and asked how many youth from across the Municipality have accessed this program.

In response, Mr. Henry advised that approximately 500 youth from all over the Municipality have participated in the program.

Deputy Mayor Fisher suggested that if staff could provide their communication which is targeted at youth, available to the Councillors, the Councillors, in turn, can disseminate this information further, through their Twitter accounts and Facebook.

The Chair noted that engaging the youth can be very difficult and she suggested that Corporate Communications get involved in helping to engage youth.

## **5. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

### **5.1 Correspondence - None**

### **5.2 Petitions - None**

### **5.3 Presentations - None**

## **6. MATTERS REFERRED FROM REGIONAL COUNCIL / OTHER TANDING COMMITTEES: NONE**

## **7. REPORTS**

### **7.1 Regional Centre Plan Project Next Steps**

A staff report dated February 25, 2014 was submitted.

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend Regional Council:**

- 1. Advance the development of a Regional Centre Community Plan by setting aside previous directives of Regional Council, as outlined in the origin section of this report, and initiate amendments to the Dartmouth Municipal Planning Strategy, Dartmouth Land Use By-Law, Downtown Dartmouth Secondary Municipal Planning Strategy, Downtown Dartmouth Land Use By-Law, Halifax Municipal Planning Strategy and Halifax Land Use By-Law to establish:
  - (a) new planning policies and regulations for the established low density areas of the Regional Centre; and**
  - (b) improved development agreement policy criteria to address residential multiple dwelling unit development and large scale mixed-use development in the Regional Centre.****

2. **Direct staff to develop a new terms of reference for Community Design Advisory Committee (CDAC), thereby replacing the terms of reference for this Committee that was adopted by Regional Council on October 4, 2011; and**
3. **Direct staff to advance the Regional Centre based projects that are outlined in the February 25, 2014 staff report.**

Mr. Richard Harvey, Major Projects Planner responded to questions.

Councillor Mason noted that the north end of Halifax was under a lot of development pressure, and without a cohesive plan as to how to best develop the neighbourhood, it brings uncertainty to the community. He advised that he would like for staff to prepare a supplementary report to on, including as a Regional Centre based project, a neighbourhood planning project for the central north end Halifax, with a proposed boundary of North Street, Cogswell Street, Agricola/North Park Streets and Barrington Street.

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Mason that the motion be amended to include a request for a supplementary report on including as a Regional Centre based project a neighbourhood planning project for the central north end Halifax with proposed boundary of North Street, Cogswell Street, Agricola/North Park, and Barrington Street.**

**THE AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED.**

Prior to calling for the vote on the amended motion, Councillor Mason clarified that it was his intent with the amendment to have the supplementary report come back to CP & ED, **to which the Committee agreed.**

The motion now reads:

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council:**

1. **Advance the development of a Regional Centre community plan by setting aside previous directives of Regional Council, as outlined in the origin section of this report, and initiate amendments to the Dartmouth Municipal Planning Strategy, Dartmouth Land Use By-Law, Downtown Dartmouth Secondary Municipal Planning Strategy, Downtown Dartmouth Land Use By-Law, Halifax Municipal Planning Strategy and Halifax Land Use By-Law to establish:**

- (a) **new planning policies and regulations for the established low density areas of the Regional Centre; and**
  - (b) **improved development agreement policy criteria to address residential multiple dwelling unit development and large scale mixed-use development in the Regional Centre.**
2. **Direct staff to develop a new terms of reference for Community Design Advisory Committee (CDAC), thereby replacing the terms of reference for this Committee that was adopted by Regional Council on October 4, 2011; and**
3. **Direct staff to advance the Regional Centre based projects that are outlined in the February 25, 2014 staff report.**
4. **Request a supplementary report to Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee on including as a Regional Centre based project a neighbourhood planning project for the central north end Halifax with proposed boundary of North Street, Cogswell Street, Agricola/North Park, and Barrington Street**

**THE MOTION, AS AMENDED, WAS PUT AND PASSED.**

#### **7.2 Aquatic Needs Assessment – Eastern Region**

A staff report dated February 10, 2014 was submitted.

**MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Deputy Mayor Fisher that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:**

1. **Direct staff to work with the YMCA and municipal pool operators to attempt to accommodate the aquatics programming that will be lost due to the expected closure of the NSCC Akerley Campus pool; and**
2. **Direct staff to further explore the regional need for additional aquatic facilities as part of the Community Facility Master Plan update, subject to approval of the 2014/15 budget and business plan by Regional Council.**

Ms. Denise Schofield, Manager, Regional Recreation and Culture and Mr. Brad Anguish, Director, Culture and Recreation responded to questions.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

#### **7.3 Dartmouth Sportsplex Revitalization Project**

A staff report dated February 26, 2014 was submitted.

Correspondence was submitted from Jeff Overmars, and Jean Snow and Robert Kropa.

**MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Watts that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:**

- 1. Direct staff to include the Dartmouth Sportsplex revitalization construction project in the strategic capital projects to be considered by the Audit and Finance Standing Committee for determination of priorities and funding strategies;**
- 2. Direct staff to, upon approval of the project within the capital budget, explore naming rights opportunities for the Dartmouth Sportsplex, as part of the revitalization project;**
- 3. Declare Findlay Centre as surplus to recreation needs upon completion of the Dartmouth Sportsplex revitalization project and refer it to Administrative Order 50 for review; and**
- 4. Direct staff to complete a program review of the Dartmouth North Centre, as part of the upcoming Community Facility Master Plan update.**

**MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Outhit that the motion be amended to remove recommendation 3.**

Councillor McCluskey expressed disappointment that staff did not give her advance notice in regard to the situation with the Findlay Centre. She added that the report was not accurate in referencing that there was a duplication of services with the Sportsplex, and noted that the only item similar to both is a fitness club. Councillor McCluskey advised that centre is used by many seniors and, in particular she noted that one room is used for pottery, and she questioned how this program could be accommodated at the Sportsplex.

Councillor Mason advised that he was not opposed to a review of the Findlay Centre for other uses, but he pointed out that the area used for pottery classes is comprised of three rooms, and he questioned how this could be accommodated in the Sportsplex. Councillor Mason indicated that the report did not provide enough information with respect to what will happen to the services and programs at the Findlay Centre, therefore, he would support the amendment.

Deputy Mayor Fisher concurred with the amendment, adding that he wanted to see more information on the Findlay Centre such revenues, costs breakdowns, etc

Mr. Brad Anguish, Director, Community and Recreation Services indicated that the Findlay Centre would be part of the scope of the Community Facility Master Plan review. He noted, though, that it is a very slow process and that the scope has grown bigger than originally set out.

**THE AMENDMENT WAS PUT AND PASSED.**

Deputy Fisher advised staff that he would like to be kept up-to-date on the review of the Dartmouth Community Centre.

**THE MOTION AS AMENDED WAS PUT AND PASSED.**

**7.4 Special Arts and Culture Advisory Committee Recommendations**

A staff report dated March 6, 2014 was submitted.

Correspondence was submitted from the following:

Laura Simpson, Miranda Sampson, Barb Ferguson and Sanchez King, Sue Ellen Wilder, Patrice Gagnon, Colin Bowers, Loretta Van Snick, Emily Denty, Adrian Hoffman, Paul Robinson, Susan Woolway, Susan Letson, Beth Shields, Valerie Downward, Patricia Betts, Alastair Saudners, Lynne FitzGerald, Judith Guernesey, Willie and Phil Reid, Angus Schurman, Mary Vingoe, Allan Banks, Martha Cooley, Jill Rafuse, Stella Lord, Emma Penick, David Leblanc, Susan Leblanc, Michele Leblanc, Claire Ahern, Dustin Harvey, Marie-Claude Gregoire, Dawn George, Genevieve Sawchyn, Nancy Roberts, Lynn Bruyere, , Gwen Davies, Bret Mitchell, Andrew Johnston, Eric Duggan, John Plant, Brian Burnell, Jacqueline Steudler, David Mercer, Janet Whelan, Leah Hamilton, Len and Penny Moxon, Kevin Tummers, Cathy Crosby, Ed Kinley, Robert Laroche, Andrew David Terris, Susan Kerlake, Susan Bolton, Marcia Barss, Colin Kerr and Valerie Chapman, Jill Chappell, Mary Blanchard, Linda Stewart, Josh MacDonald, Mary Martin, Patricia Creighton, Jessica Winton, Raymond LeBlanc, Ivan Murphy, Jason Roth and Cheryl Steadman, Gail Gordon, Eric Mathis, Kelly Hart, Ariella Pahlke, Julie Adamson, Edward Tummers, Helen Martin, Kay Crinean, Susanne Wise and Grant Curtis, Jacques Gagnon, Kyoko Ohashi, Sandra Chappell, Louise Grinstead, Don and Judy Wagh, Noemie Joly, Miriam Langley, Carolyn MacGillivray, Phil Blakey, Allan Gaskin, Beverly d'Entremont, Madeline Comeau, Brenda Hundscheid, Dominic Desautels, Patrick McKinnon, Elizabeth Heffelfinger, James Holmes, Brian James, Janet Gaskin, Andrea Ritchie, Michael McFadden, Shirley Dean, Jim Williams, Audrey Tenniswood, Carolyn Gaskin, Christine Feierabend, Scott Burke, Tamsyn Brennan, Patricia Tupper, Sheila C. Taylor, Marianne Ward, Nora Gross, Martin Masse, Elizabeth Craig, Ingrid Medeiros, Mary Elizabeth Luka, Sebastien Labelle, Karen J. Woolhouse, Jeff Schwager, Krista Vincent, Max Kasper, Ashley Margeson, Bobi Zahra, Lynn Rotin, Megan Hamilton, Gillian Maycock, Lynette Richards, Katie Belcher, Bryan Maycock, Briony Carros, Pat Loucks, Michael McCormack, Gail Sutherland, Shirley Gueller, Bernhard Gueller, Louis Ramaley, John and Julie Cuming, Ron Burdock, Scott Long, W.D. Jamieson, James C. Eager and Marel E. Eager, Barbara Pritchard, Evelyn and Michael Concannon, Suzy MacLean, Charlotte Wilson-Hammond, Judith Brannen, Kathy Brown, Mhiran Faraday, Brad Reid, Rae Smith, Margaret Douma, Bryanna Chapeskie, Karen Schlick, Kimberly Bungay, Leslie Hauck, Anna Horsnell Wade, Susan Kulik, Catherine Little, Eileen Joyce, Barry Campbell, Peter Hennigar, , Keith McPhail, Isabelle Chevrier, Rob Batherson, Kirsty Money, Barbara Leblanc, Michael and Jean



Gray, Jyelle Vogel, Pat Forde, Myles Genest, Helen Whitman, Alexandra McCurdy, Carroll Godsman, Don Riedaer, Deborah Blackadar, Mike Downward, Kate Watson, Margo Grant, Nancy Schurman, Norman Adams, Caitlin Smith, Jeff Overmars, and Sheilagh Hunt.

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Fisher that the Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:**

1. **Direct staff to include \$300,000 in the 2014/15 budget and draft an administrative order for Regional Council's consideration to implement the Interim Professional Arts Organization Grant Program outlined in Attachment 4, subject to approval of the 2014/15 Operating Budget;**
2. **Direct staff to initiate the creation of a professional arts and culture sector advisory committee with a peer jury process for 2015/16 consistent with the Governance Review of Committees, and coordinated with upcoming Grant Policy and Culture and Heritage Priorities Plan; and**
3. **Direct staff to undertake an analysis of the remaining SACAC recommendations outlined in Table 1 for determination of financial implications and harmonization with other corporate initiatives**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

8. **PRESENTATION REQUESTS: None**

9. **MOTIONS: None**

10. **ADDED ITEMS**

Councillor Nicoll stepped down from the Chair in order to address this item. Councillor Mason assumed the Chair.

**10.1 Councillor Nicoll – Request for Information Report – Scope and Review Process – Community Facility Master Plan**

**MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Outhit that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee request an information report be provided to Regional Council that outlines the scope and review process for the upcoming renewal of the Community Facility Master Plan and also the status of the recommendations included in the 2008 plan.**

Councillor Nicoll advised that she was bringing this motion forward as she felt it was important for Council to have this information for discussion, particularly in light of the issues raised at this meeting.

Councillor Watts asked that the public participation process be clearly outlined in the report.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

11. **IN CAMERA – None**
12. **NEXT MEETING DATE:** April 10, 2014
13. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds  
Legislative Assistant