



**COMMUNITY PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
April 10, 2014**

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

**STAFF:** Ms. Karen Brown, Senior Solicitor  
Mr. Brad Anguish, Acting DCAO  
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee are available online:*

<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/April102014CommunityPlanningandEconomicDevelopmentStandingCommitteeAgenda-HRM.html>

*The meeting was called to order at 2:08 p.m., and the Standing Committee moved into an In Camera session at 3:45 p.m. and reconvened in regular session at 3:49 p.m. The Standing Committee adjourned at 3:50 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None**

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

Additions:

12.1 Motion of Rescission – March 20, 2014 – Item 7.1 Regional Centre Plan Project – Councillor Mason (Two-thirds majority was required to add this to the agenda)

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

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - None**

**5. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE**

**6. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE**

**7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**

**8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**8.1 Correspondence - None**

**8.2 Petitions - None**

**8.3 Presentations:**

**8.3.1 Neptune Theatre – Amy Melmock**

Ms. Amy Melmock, General Manager of Neptune Theatre addressed the Committee and provided a brief presentation on Neptune Theatre. She highlighted the impact the Theatre has on the region economically in terms of purchasing goods and services, in employing actors and technical staff, and spin-off benefits for the local restaurants. Ms. Melmock advised that she couldn't emphasize enough the importance of the recommendations from the Special Arts and Culture Advisory Committee, not only for Neptune and the arts community, but for the region as a whole. She added that she is looking forward to the roll-out of those recommendations and, in

particular, she referenced the recommendation in regard to tax exemption and advised that Neptune Theatre would like to be a part of the consultation process on this matter.

### 8.3.2 Halifax Higher Education Partnership

- Background Information with respect to the presentation was circulated to the Committee.

Mr. Peter Halpin, Executive Director, Association of Atlantic Universities, addressed the Committee and introduced Mr. Eric Beresford, President, Atlantic School of Theology; and Mr. Dan O'Brien, President, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design University. Mr. Halpin led the presentation, providing an overview of the Halifax Higher Education Partnership and the Memorandum of Understanding that was signed in March 2014 between Halifax's universities, the Nova Scotia Community College and HRM. Mr. Halpin advised that the MOU is truly a partnership of the universities and community college and HRM and it now includes St. Anne Campus. Dr. O'Brien and Dr. Beresford spoke about the economic, social, and cultural contributions the universities and community college provide to the local community.

Mr. Halpin, Dr. O'Brien and Dr. Beresford responded to questions.

## 9. REPORTS

### 9.1 STAFF

#### 9.1.1 Destination Eastern & Northumberland Shores

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated March 20, 2014.

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Deputy Mayor Fisher that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend to Regional Council that HRM direct Destination Halifax to work with DEANS to build the tourism industry in the eastern part of HRM through the provision of advice and in kind services as appropriate.**

Councillor Mason advised that this matter arose out of a motion he made at Council for clarification on Destination Halifax and Destination Eastern and Northumberland Shores and what role should the Municipality be playing. He added that after reviewing the staff report, he views this matter in a similar way to the way Council viewed and agreed that that it wanted a single economic voice with the Greater Halifax Partnership. Councillor Mason advised that he feels tourism should also have a singular voice, and therefore, he was supporting the staff recommendation

Ms. Maggie MacDonald, Senior Advisor, Government Relations and External Affairs responded to questions.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.1.2 International Partnership Policy**

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated April 3, 2014.
- A Motion Memo prepared by the Municipal Clerk's Office
- A revised copy of Attachment 1 of the April 3, 2014 staff report RE Administrative Order 2014-003-Gov
- A revised copy of Attachment 1 of the April 3, 2014 staff report RE Administrative Order 2014-003-Gov showing the changes.

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

- 1. Adopt the proposed Administrative Order 2014-003-GOV Respecting International Partnerships as set out in the revised Attachment 1 of the staff report dated April 3, 2014 which includes the repeal of the 2002 HRM Twinning Policy; and**
- 2. Maintain the relationships identified in the staff report dated April 3, 2014 (Hakodate, Norfolk, Campeche, and Aberdeen) and categorize Norfolk and Aberdeen as Economic Partnership Agreements, and Hakodate and Campeche as Friendship Partnership Agreements.**

Mr. Paul Johnston, Coordinator of Corporate Affairs responded to questions.

Councillor Watts referred to the attachment to the staff report which outlined the status of current and past HRM twinning activity and advised that she thought there were more. She added that she was surprised that there was no formal relationship between the City of Halifax and City of Boston. She also questioned the status of the relationship with Freetown, Sierra Leone.

Mr. Johnston responded that contact with Sierra Leone has been sporadic, and in regard to a formal relationship with the City of Boston, he suggested it may be more appropriate to have one-off projects for special anniversaries.

Mayor Savage addressed the Committee and advised that he was very supportive of establishing 'sister cities'. He noted that representatives from Freetown have been discussing a visit to Halifax either this year or next. With respect to the City of Boston, Mayor Savage advised that the connection the two cities share in regard to the Halifax Explosion was important and the City should continue to build on its relationship with Boston.

In response to a question with regard to any possible financial implications with the current agreements Mr. Johnston advised that up to this point the Greater Halifax Partnership has covered off anything in this regard. He added that as Council moves forward and formalizes these agreements, staff will identify if there are any additional costs to those existing agreements that need to be covered.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**10. MOTIONS - NONE**

**11. IN CAMERA**

**11.1 Personnel Matter – Appointment to Heritage Advisory Committee**

The Committee dealt with this matter In Camera later in the meeting.

**12. ADDED ITEMS**

**12.1 Motion of Rescission – March 20, 2014 – Item 7.1 Regional Centre Plan Project**

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Watts that the Rules of Procedure be suspended in order that the Committee can deal with a motion of rescission. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Councillor Mason explained that following the Committee’s approval of the staff recommendation last month, in consultation with the Clerk’s Office, it was felt that recommendation 2 needed clarification with regard to the role of the Community Design Advisory Committee. Specifically, the path the terms of reference would follow through for approval, i.e. to CP & ED and then on to Regional Council. Councillor Mason advised that, also, it wasn’t clear that CDAC would have a role in providing strategic advice in the development of the Centre Plan. He indicated that the goal of the motion of rescission was to provide clarity on these aspects.

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Watts that the following motion from March 20, 2014 regarding item 7.1 Regional Centre Plan be rescinded:**

**“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 TO RESCIND WAS PUT AND PASSED.**

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Watts 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.**

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Mason that recommendation 2 of the motion be amended to read:**

**“Direct staff to develop a new terms of reference for review and recommendation by CPED, to be adopted by Regional Council, for the 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 these new terms of**

reference are to identify the role that CDAC will play in providing strategic advice in the development of the Centre Plan.”

And further that the motion be amended to add the following:

**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.**

The amended motion now reads:

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Watts 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 review and recommendation by CPED, to be adopted by Regional Council, for the 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 these new terms of reference are to identify the role that CDAC will play in providing strategic advice in the development of the Centre Plan.**
- 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**

**13. NOTICES OF MOTION- None**

**MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Mason that the Committee convene In Camera. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

The Committee convened In Camera and then reconvened in public to ratify the motion from In Camera as follows:

**12.2 Personnel Matter – Appointment to Heritage Advisory Committee**

The Committee dealt with this matter In Camera, and then ratified the motion from in camera in the public portion of the meeting as follows

**MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Outhit that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend Regional Council approve the Committee’s recommendations for appointments to the Heritage Advisory Committee to fill a vacancy and for an alternate; to extend the term to of the appointment to November 2016 to allow the member sufficient time to become familiar with and contribute to the Committee; and it is further recommended that the citizen appointments be released to the public following ratification and notification of the successful candidates.**

**14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – May 8, 2014**

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

The Committee adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds  
Legislative Assistant