

COMMUNITY PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MINUTES

October 13, 2011

PRESENT: Councillor Lorelei Nicoll, Chair
 Councillor Sue Uteck, Vice Chair
 Councillor Peter Lund
 Councillor Mary Wile
 Councillor Jerry Blumenthal

REGRETS: Councillor Steve Streach
 Councillor Darren Fisher
 Councillor Tim Outhit (absent)

STAFF: 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
5.	CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS	3
5.1	Correspondence	3
5.2	Petitions	3
5.3	Presentation.....	3
5.3.1	Greater Halifax Partnership – Update on Economic Strategy	3
6.	REPORTS	4
7.	MATTERS REFERRED FROM REGIONAL COUNCIL / OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES:.....	4
7.1	Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee:.....	4
7.1.1	Functional Plans with Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee Oversight.....	4
8.	ADDED ITEMS	5
8.1	Information Report dated September 27, 2011 RE: Update on Community Engagement for the Social Heritage Strategy	5
9.	NEXT MEETING DATE	5
10.	ADJOURNMENT	5

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED by Councillor Wile, seconded by Councillor Blumenthal that the minutes of September 15, 2011 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- 8.1 Information Report dated September 27, 2011 RE: Update on Community Engagement for the Social Heritage Strategy

This item was not added during Approval of the Order of Business; it was added by Councillor Uteck later in the meeting.

MOVED by Councillor Wile, seconded by Councillor Uteck that the agenda, as presented, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES: None

5. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

5.1 Correspondence: None

5.2 Petitions: None

5.3 Presentation:

5.3.1 Greater Halifax Partnership – Update on Economic Strategy

An Information Report dated October 6, 2011 was submitted.

Mr. Paul Kent, President and CEO, and Mr. Fred Morley, Executive Vice President and Chief Economist, Greater Halifax Partnership provided a presentation on the progress to date on the implementation of the Economic Strategy. (A copy of the Power Point Presentation was submitted for the official file).

Mr. Kent and Mr. Morley responded to questions.

Councillor Lund noted that recently there was a report in the newspaper that housing permits issued last year were down but permits for apartment buildings were up. He suggested that this was contrary to the information in the presentation.

In response, Mr. Morley advised that in his view there were noticeable differences as to what happens in Halifax in the housing/apartment/condo mix, and condominium prices in Halifax are quite high compared to other jurisdictions. He suggested that this could be a result of decreased competition in the condominium market in Halifax and more emphasis on the apartments. Mr. Morley also suggested that there may be systemic issues involved. He advised that he wasn't sure if much research has been carried out in this regard, but he would follow up with HRM staff and see if they may have this information.

The Chair thanked Mr. Morley and Mr. Kent for the update.

6. REPORTS: None

7. MATTERS REFERRED FROM REGIONAL COUNCIL / OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES:

7.1 Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee:

7.1.1 Functional Plans with Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee Oversight

A report dated September 9, 2011 was submitted from the Vice Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee.

The Chair led a review of the listing of Functional Plans attached to the report and the Committee members were in agreement with the various functional plans noted as being led by CP&ED, or with CP&ED having a shared lead role.

A brief discussion ensued in regard to the lead roles for the Wastewater Management Plan and the Stormwater Management Plan, with the consensus that Halifax Water and the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee should have shared lead roles for these two plans.

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Lund that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee accept the lead and shared lead roles over the Functional Plans as identified in Attachment 'A' of the July 25, 2011 staff report, as noted below:

**Open Space Functional Plan – ESSC/CPED
Potential hazards to Development Functional Plan – ESSC/CPED
Opportunity Sites Functional Plan – CPED
Affordable Housing Functional Plan – CPED**

Cultural Functional Plan – CPED
Halifax Harbour Functional Plan – CPED
Business Parks Development Functional Plan – CPED
Capital District Functional Plan – CPED
Heritage Functional Plan – CPED
Communication Tower Functional Plan – CPED
Community Engagement Strategy - CPED

And, further, the Standing Committee suggests that the Wastewater Management and the Stormwater Management Functional Plans have shared lead roles by Halifax Water and the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Information Report dated September 27, 2011 RE: Update on Community Engagement for the Social Heritage Strategy – Councillor Uteck

Councillor Uteck indicated that after reading through the Information Report, she has questions and would like for this item to be placed on the next agenda and staff requested to attend.

The Chair concurred and advised that it would be placed on the November 10, 2011 agenda and staff would be asked to be in attendance.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE – November 10, 2011

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:24 pm

Sheilagh Edmonds
Legislative Assistant

The following information item was submitted:

Information report dated September 27, 2011RE: Update on Community engagement for the Social Heritage Strategy.