



**COMMUNITY PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
July 28, 2016**

PRESENT: Councillor Waye Mason, Chair  
Councillor Lorelei Nicoll, Vice Chair  
Councillor Steve Adams  
Councillor Steve Craig  
Councillor Tony Mancini  
Councillor Jennifer Watts

STAFF: Mr. Bruce Zvaniga, Acting Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Mr. Colin Taylor, Solicitor  
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 Community Planning and Economic Development are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/SCcped/index.php>*

*The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and recessed at 11:56 a.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 16, 2016**

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Watts

**THAT the minutes of June 16, 2016 be approved.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

MOVED by Councillor Watts seconded by Councillor Nicoll

**THAT the agenda be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Councillor Watts provided clarification with regard to the Committee's June motion on the Affordable Housing Partnership recommendations. She explained that there is a staff report forthcoming on the matter and the intent is to have the Committee's recommendation moved to Council at same time as staff report.

**5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS - NONE**

**6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE**

**7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE**

**8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS**

**8.1 Funding Request – Neptune Theatre Foundation**

The following was before the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated June 8, 2016.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**That Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED) Standing Committee recommend Halifax Regional Council direct staff to consider a \$50,000 one-time capital grant contribution to Neptune Theatre as part of the 2017/18 operating budget.**

In response to a question, Ms. Denise Schofield, Manager, Program Support, Parks and Recreation advised that staff consulted with representatives of Neptune Theatre and no concern was expressed in regard to the staff recommendation.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE**

**10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**10.1 Correspondence - None**

**10.2 Petitions - None**

**10.3 Presentations:**

**10.3.1 Sophie Helpard, Executive Director, Students Nova Scotia – Presentation on the Students Nova Scotia Organization and its Goals.**

Ms. Sophie Helpard, Executive Director of Students Nova Scotia provided a presentation on the Students Nova Scotia Organization. She explained that the group is a not-for-profit and non-partisan advocacy group that represents Nova Scotia post-secondary students, and their members study at Acadia, Cape Breton, Saint Mary's, and St. Francis Xavier Universities, as well as the Kingstec and Annapolis Valley Campuses of the Nova Scotia Community College. Ms. Helpard advised that Students Nova Scotia endeavours to give students a united voice in Nova Scotia, helping set the direction of post-secondary education by researching challenges, identifying solutions, and creating the political space needed for these solutions to happen. She highlighted their goals for this year as follows:

- Increase youth voter participation in upcoming elections
- Advocate for more affordable post-secondary education
- Advocate for more work-integrated learning opportunities for all students
- Weigh in on country-wide student issues
- Expand member to more Nova Scotia Community College campuses.

**10.3.2 Rebecca Gasek and Sherry Riggs - South End Community Daycare Centre Lease Renewal**

The following was before the Committee:

- A presentation entitled, South End Community Daycare Centre – An HRM & Non-Profit Partnership – HRM Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee July 28, 2016

Ms. Sherry Riggs and Ms. Rebecca Gasek provided a presentation regarding the recommendation by staff to transition the lease of the South End Community Daycare from a cost recovery rent to market rent to cover the costs of capital upgrades to the building. In their remarks they highlighted the impact this would have, pointing out that the staff recommendation represented a 400% increase to their rent over the next 5 years, and would increase the annual per child cost by 17%. They concluded their remarks by requesting that Council honour the commitment made to the Centre and Community in 1983 when it approved cost recovery rents; and to direct staff to enter into a lease on the current rent terms, i.e. below market with CPI increase, or the same terms as the Seniors' Centre, Spencer House, which occupies the same building.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

**THAT the presentation be included in the staff report coming forward on this matter and that staff review and comment on the presentation in the staff report.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

**12. REPORTS**

**12.1 STAFF**

### 12.1.1 Charter Amendment to Enable Interim Development Controls

The following was before the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated June 17, 2016.

Mr. Ben Sievert, Principal Planner, Planning and Development provided an overview of the staff report.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

**THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend Regional Council request the Province amend the HRM Charter to enable Council to implement interim development controls for all or part of the Municipality.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### 12.1.2 Bayers Lake Mystery Wall

The following was before the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated July 12, 2016.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Watts

**THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend Regional Council:**

1. **Approve entering into a one-time contribution agreement with the Nova Scotia Archeology Society for funding of \$5,475; and**
2. **Direct staff to negotiate and execute a contribution agreement on behalf of the Municipality with the Nova Scotia Archeology Society that, in the opinion of the Acting Chief Administrative Officer or his delegate, achieves the outcomes of the Municipality identified in the July 12, 2016 staff report.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### 12.1.3 Destination Halifax Update and Amended Services Agreement

The following was before the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated May 24, 2016.

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

**THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend:**

1. **Regional Council approve the attached amending agreement and updates to Schedule A of the current Services Agreement with Destination Halifax; and,**
2. **The Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council increase its operational support to Destination Halifax to \$386,600 to correct a \$104,500 discrepancy in HRM's approved 2016-17 Operating and Capital Budget with funding from Q328 – Operating Surplus Reserve.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### 12.1.4 Halifax Partnership Update and Amended Services Agreement

The following was before the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated July 11, 2016.

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend Regional Council approve the amending agreement to the Services Agreement with the Halifax Partnership that replaces the 2015/16 Schedule A with the Schedule A included as Attachment 2 to the July 11, 2016 staff report.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### 12.1.5 Support for Engage Nova Scotia

The following was before the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated July 14, 2016.

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Watts

**THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend:**

1. **Halifax Regional Council award a grant of \$50,000 from operating account M310-8004 to support Engage Nova Scotia**
2. **Halifax Regional Council approve that the agreement for the first grant be updated to cover the second grant**
3. **The Audit and Finance Standing Committee review this proposal before forwarding it to Regional Council**

Councillor Adams indicated that he would not support the motion because the Committee had not received financial information and the financial statements it requested from Engage Nova Scotia when they made their presentation to the Committee in April.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

**THAT this matter be deferred until the Committee receives the financial statements from Engage Nova Scotia.**

Mr. Taylor, Solicitor, clarified that a motion to table would be the appropriate procedure rather than a motion to defer.

Councillor Adams withdrew his motion to defer and put forward a motion to table.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

**THAT this matter be tabled until the Committee receives the financial statements and supporting financial information.**

A discussion ensued with staff responding to questions. In response to a question Ms. Maggie MacDonald, Managing Director, Government Relations and External Affairs advised that representatives of Engage Nova Scotia expressed that there was some urgency in receiving the funds. In response to a further question, Ms. MacDonald advised that the staff report contains all the financial information provided to staff from Engage Nova Scotia.

**MOTION TO TABLE WAS PUT AND DEFEATED.**

The main motion was on the floor. Councillor Adams restated his position that he would not support the motion as the Committee has not received the financial information it requested.

Councillor Nicoll suggested that if staff were able to provide further financial breakdown of the information provided, it could be included when the report goes to the Audit and Finance Standing Committee.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12.1.6 Red Tape Reduction Strategy**

The following was before the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated July 14, 2016.

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Craig

**THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend:**

1. **Regional Council authorize the CAO to commit a staff resource, reporting to the CAO, to work with the Nova Scotia Office of Regulatory Affairs and Service Effectiveness on red tape reduction for a period of six months with the possibility of extension of up to three years; and,**
2. **Prior to this report being forwarded to Regional Council, staff identify a funding source for Audit and Finance Standing Committee's recommendation to Regional Council.**
3. **Staff report to Regional Council on progress in six months.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**13. MOTIONS - NONE**

**14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)**

The Committee did not convene in camera, and dealt with the following item in the public session.

**14.1 Personnel Matter – ArtsHalifax Advisory Committee**

The following was before the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated July 21, 2016.

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Mancini

**That the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee approve the staff recommendation as outlined in the Private and Confidential staff report dated July 21, 2016.**

**15. ADDED ITEMS - NONE**

**16. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE**

**17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No one came forward to address the Committee during public participation.

**18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – September 15, 2016

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds  
Legislative Assistant