



**ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
February 5, 2015**

PRESENT: Councillor Jennifer Watts, Chair
Councillor Barry Dalrymple, Vice-Chair
Councillor Bill Karsten
Deputy Mayor Loreli Nicoll
Councillor Darren Fisher
Councillor Brad Johns

STAFF: Mr. Mike Labrecque, Deputy CAO
Mr. Josh Judea, Solicitor
Ms. Sherryll Murphy, Deputy Clerk

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

The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee are available online:

<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/SCenv/Agenda-ESSCFeb5.php>

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. and adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 15, 2015

Deputy Mayor Nicoll noted that she had moved the motion to elect Councillor Watts as Chair and Councillor Karsten had seconded the motion.

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Fisher that the minutes of the January 15, 2015 meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee be approved, as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

12.1 District Energy – Councillor Dalrymple

MOVED by Councillor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Fisher that the agenda be approved, as amended. 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

7.1 Weed Growth in Lake Banook and MicMac

This matter was deferred from the January 15, 2015 meeting of the Committee with a request that staff report regarding additional information received from Lake Management Services.

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff briefing form dated February 5, 2015 re Weed Growth in Lakes Banook & MicMac – Additional Information
- Correspondence from Robert Chisholm, MP, Dartmouth-Cole Harbour dated January 28, 2015 expressing concern over the possibility of using herbicides in Lakes Banook and MicMac

The following motion was on the floor:

MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nicoll that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council direct staff to:

- 1. Seek approval from the Province to manage the weeds in Lakes Banook and MicMac**
- 2. Implement the short-term control of weed management on Lake Banook and Lake Micmac through contracted mechanical harvesting services; and**
- 3. Prepare recommendations for long-term options for weed control on Lake Banook and Lake MicMac.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

8.1 Correspondence - None

8.2 Petitions - None

8.3 Presentation

8.3.1 Blue Dot Campaign – Ms. Katie Perfitt

The following was before the Committee:

- A document entitled The Right to a Healthy Environment – Canada’s Time to Act
- A document entitled Halifax Municipal Declaration, The Right to a Healthy Environment

Ms. Katie Perfitt, Organizer, David Suzuki Foundation and Ms. Kate Mac-Eachern-Ali, Halifax Blue Dot Campaign Volunteer gave a brief presentation indicating that their purpose was to request Halifax to sign the declaration for the Right to a Healthy Environment. Ms. Perfitt indicated that the model distributed to members was being used across Canada.

Ms. Perfitt and Ms. MacEachern-Ali, responded to questions from members of the Committee.

With regard to what other municipalities are doing beyond signing the declaration, Ms. Perfitt noted that municipal elected officials are bringing the discussion of the right to healthy environments to the Provincial and Federal levels.

Councillor Karsten suggested that in signing the declaration, Council could expect significant work would be required to fulfill the intent of the declaration.

Deputy Mayor Nicoll noted that the campaign is about the right to a healthy environment and indicated that the balance of protecting the environment and achieving prosperity is a sensitive one.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Johns that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee request a staff report examining the Blue Dot Campaign’s requested declaration of support. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. REPORTS

9.1 STAFF – None

9.2 COMMITTEES

9.2.1 Request from Regional Watershed Advisory Committee

The following was before the Committee:

- Correspondence from Mr. Allan Billard, Chairperson, Regional Watershed Advisory Committee dated January 28, 2015.

The Committee considered the request from Chair of Regional Watershed Advisory Board to consider and comment on matters, including weeds in Lakes Banook and MicMac, the daylighting of Mill Creek and the lake monitoring program. These matters are not within the mandate of the Advisory Board. Councillor Watts, Chair provided background and/or a status update of the matters and requested a staff update on the lake monitoring program not that members of the Regional Watershed Advisory Board would be welcome to attend the Standing Committee meeting at that time.

Councillor Watts further indicated that she would meet with the Board regarding their mandate and the important work Council has assigned this body. A formal written response will be made to the Regional Watershed Advisory Board in response to their January 28, 2015 letter.

9.3 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE

9.3.1 Update – Regional Solid Waste Chairs Committee – Councillor Watts

Councillor Watts provided a brief verbal update of the activities of the Regional Chairs Committee. No further action was taken.

9.4 COMMITTEE UPDATES - None

10. MOTIONS

10.1 Motion – Councillor Dalrymple – Operationalization of Resiliency

Councillor Dalrymple gave Notice of Motion at the January 15, 2015 meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nicoll that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee request staff prepare a brief presentation of how resiliency is operationalized in HRM and what steps are being taken to integrate with the Emergency Measures Organization. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11. IN CAMERA - None

12. ADDED ITEMS

12.1 District Energy – Councillor Dalrymple

This matter was added during the setting of the agenda.

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Councillor Karsten that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee request staff to prepare an information report outlining the process they are taking to ensure that opportunity for District Energy is explored as part of the Cogswell Interchange Redevelopment Plan. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13. NOTICES OF MOTION

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – March 5, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. – Council Chamber, City Hall

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Sherrill Murphy
Deputy Clerk