



**GRANTS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
March 7, 2016**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Barry Dalrymple, Chair  
Councillor Russell Walker  
Councillor David Hendsbee  
Ms. Sara Colburne, Vice Chair  
Mr. Donald Dodge  
Mr. John Falkenham  
Ms. Janice Kenney

**REGRETS:** Ms. Linda MacKay  
Ms. Ratnam Mohan

**STAFF:** Ms. Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Tax, Grants, and Special Projects  
Mr. Bruce Fisher, Manager, Finance  
Ms. Cathy Collett, 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 Grants Committee are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/bccgrants/agenda.php>*

*The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. and adjourned at 1:43 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 1, 2015**

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Ms. Sarah Colburne

**THAT the minutes of February 1, 2016 be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

MOVED by Ms. Kenney, seconded by Mr. Donald Dodge

**THAT the order of business be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED**

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

**5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS –**

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

**7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS – NONE**

**7.1.1 Correspondence from Lisa Roberts, Executive Director, Veith House**

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Mr. Donald Dodge

**That the deadline for the work funded by the HRM Capital Grant to Veith House be extended to August 31, 2016.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

**9. REPORTS**

**9.1 STAFF**

**9.1.1 Update on Non-Profit Tax Relief**

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff information report dated February 29, 2016

Mr. Bruce Fisher, Manager, Financial Policy and Planning, briefly addressed the staff report, explaining that the current practise for providing tax relief to non-profit groups was developed at the time of amalgamation. Mr. Fisher noted that staff are working with the Province to make adjustments to the Halifax Charter that would make it easier to provide tax relief to charities and non-profit organizations. Mr.

Fisher also commented that staff are trying to shift the focus from percentage of tax relief to the actual amount of tax paid.

Mr. Fisher responded to questions of clarifications regarding the status of previous reports addressing tax relief reform and proposed changes to the Halifax Charter.

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Ms. Janice Kenney

**THAT staff return with previous material on proposed non profit tax changes, updated for 2016/17, provide direction on how to transition this material in light of the legal restrictions imposed by the Halifax Charter, and provide wording on the proposed amendments to the Halifax Charter.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**10. ADDED ITEMS - NONE**

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – April 4, 2016, Halifax Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:43

Cathy Collett  
Legislative Assistant