

**REGIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

November 19, 2007

PRESENT: Ms. Tina Babineau
Ms. Judy MakMillen
Ms. Jaqueline Wigle
Mr. Andrew Pumphrey
Mr. Ryan Dodge
Ms. Shannen Lumsden
Mr. Lucian Mustain
Mr. Callum Dunphy
Ms. Mhari Lamarque
Ms. Rachel Eisener
Mr. Kevin Hazelhurst
Councillor Linda Mosher
Councillor Gloria McCluskey

REGRETS: Mr. Ben Murray

STAFF: Mr. Lee Moore, Community Developer
Ms. Julia Horncastle, Municipal Clerk
Ms. Shawnee Gregory, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Julia Horncastle, Municipal Clerk at 6:34 p.m. at the Old Dartmouth City Hall, 90 Alderney Drive.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

Ms. Horncastle called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Regional Youth Advisory Committee. Ms. Rachel Eisener, Ms. Mhari Lamarque, Ms. Tina Babineau and Mr. Callum Dunphy were nominated for the position. The committee voted on an anonymous ballot and the majority elected Ms. Lamarque as Chair.

The Chair, Ms. Lamarque, called for nominations for the position of Vice - Chair of the Regional Youth Advisory Committee. Ms. Rachel Eisener, Mr. Callum Dunphy and Mr. Ryan Dodge were nominated for the position. The committee voted on an anonymous ballot and the majority elected Mr. Callum Dunphy as Vice - Chair.

Councillor Mosher entered the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

3. COMMUNITY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Eisener informed the Committee that the Youth Action Team for Fall River District two (2) and Beaver Bank will be meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 21, 2007.

Ms. Jacqueline Wigle informed the Committee that the Dartmouth YMCA has recently started a youth night every Saturday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Admission is two (2) dollars.

Ms. Tina Babineau informed the Committee that the Captain William Spry Centre in Spryfield has recently received a renovations grant. Consequently, the Centre will be having a Hype Day and would like members of the Regional Youth Advisory Committee to have a booth set up or conduct an information session.

Councillor Mosher informed the Committee that on Wednesday, November 21st from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. the Captain William Spry Centre will be having an open house. The Centre plans to retrofit their interior and exterior to be more youth friendly. Councillor Mosher encouraged that suggestions be e-mailed to her regarding ideas for the renovation of the Centre.

Mr. Lee Moore, Community Developer, encouraged members to contact him regarding transportation to any Committee related events that they would like to attend.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - May 14, 2007

To be circulated at the next meeting.

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

MOVED BY Councillor Mosher, seconded by Mr. Andrew Pumphrey that the agenda, as presented, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

6. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

6.1 Dialogue between Councillors and Youth

Councillor Gloria McCluskey welcomed the youth members to the Committee. She stated that she would like them to feel like they are contributing and to bring issues of importance to them forward. She encouraged them to contact her at any time if she can be of help.

Councillor Mosher stated that she was glad that HRM and the Clerk's Office was supporting this Committee. She stated that she sees this Committee as a conduit between Council and youth. She also encouraged them to contact her at any time if she can be of help.

Mr. Kevin Hazelhurst entered the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

The Roles and Responsibilities handout will be discussed at the next meeting. Concerns were raised over the amount of sub-committees. Members were encouraged to come to the next meeting with any ideas on this matter.

7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE

8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

8.1 CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

8.2 PETITIONS - NONE

8.3 DELEGATIONS

8.3.1 YouthScape Presentation - Ms. Sabrina Poirier

Ms. Sabrina Poirier, Coordinator of YouthScape, provided the presentation on Youth Scape. Highlights of her presentation were as follows:

- C YouthScape is a National youth engagement initiative funded by the McConnell International Institute.
- C Presently the Initiative is taking place in five (5) cities across Canada; Halifax, Saskatoon, Thunder Bay, Calgary and Montreal.
- C The initiative has only been in Halifax for a couple of months.
- C There is a steering committee comprised of fifty (50) percent youth and fifty (50) percent adults.
- C Ms. Eisener is on the YouthScape Steering Committee so any questions regarding the initiative may be addressed to her.
- C At a local level, the HeartWoods applied for the funding for the initiative.
- C One of the main priorities in Halifax was the creation of a youth grant. The initiative has \$65, 000 to put towards youth grants.
- C There is already a partnership in place with the United Way.
- C Youth will be making decisions on what groups receive grants.
- C Each group grant will be approximately five hundred (\$500) to one thousand (\$1000) dollars each.
- C There is a focus on marginalized youth and diversity.

A discussion ensued with Ms. Poirier responding to questions. The following comments were noted:

- C The age group of the advisory committee is thirteen (13) to eighteen (18) but that may be opened up.
- C Concerns were raised regarding the new skate park in Spryfield. There are many viewpoints on this issue which need to be steered forward in a common direction. The process should be youth led and must be in order for a grant to be awarded from YouthScape.
- C Committee members expressed interest in a community block party.

Councillor McCluskey left the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Quorum was lost at this time.

- C YouthScape is working on a website and they are also on Facebook.
- C The initiative is looking for a group of youth who are willing to meet regularly. The meetings will begin in January and there will be several a month.
- C Youth will be working with adult mentors who will help with items such as forms and criteria.
- C HRM staff members, Ivy Warren and Rebecca Koeller, are on the YouthScape Steering Committee.

The Chair thanked Ms. Poirier for her presentation.

9. REPORTS - NONE

10. ADDED ITEMS - NONE

Note - if any member would like an item added to the next meeting's agenda they may contact Ms. Shawnee Gregory, Legislative Assistant.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, December 17th, 2007.

11.1 Meeting Location

At this time, the Committee discussed alternate meeting locations that will attempt to accommodate all members.

Ms. Eisener put a motion forward for the meetings to continue to take place at the Old Dartmouth City Hall. Due to lack of quorum, the motion will be on the floor for the next meeting.

Mr. Moore will decide on the location of the next meeting.

The Committee would like the Terms of Reference amended so that only one (1) Councillor is required for quorum rather than two (2). This item will be discussed at the next meeting.

Ms. Horncastle informed the members that as per the Boards and Committees Guidelines; if a member misses three (3) consecutive meetings they will be automatically dismissed from the Committee. However, if a member sends their regrets to Ms. Gregory, the Legislative Assistant, prior to the meeting they will be excused.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8 :05 p.m.

Shawnee Gregory
Legislative Assistant

