

COMMUNITY DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

June 19, 2013

PRESENT:

Ms. Dale Godsoe, Chair
Mr. Eric Burchill
Mr. Geoff Le Boutillier
Ms. Joanne Macrae
Councillor Lorelei Nicoll
Councillor Gloria McCluskey
Councillor Wayne Mason
Councillor Jennifer Watts
Mr. Fred Morley, Vice Chair
Dr. Gaynor Watson-Creed
Mr. Bill Book
Mr. Peter Moorhouse

STAFF:

Mr. Austin French, Manager, Planning and Infrastructure
Ms. Jane Fraser, Director, Planning and Infrastructure
Mr. Richard Harvey, Interim Project Manager
Mr. Dave McCusker, Manager, Strategic Transportation
Planning
Ms. Julie Vandervoort, Legislative Support

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:42 a.m. in the Committee Room, City Hall.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 6, 2013 and May 15, 2013

MOVED by Mr. Morley, seconded by Councillor Watts, that the minutes of May 6, 2013 and the minutes of May 15, 2013 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

The Chair suggested that the Committee begin the order of business with an update from Ms. Jane Fraser, Director, Planning and Infrastructure, on the motions passed by Regional Council on June 18, 2013. The Committee agreed.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Mr. Book that the agenda be approved as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Ms. Fraser briefly described the discussion on the RP+5 public information process that took place during the June 18, 2013 Regional Council meeting. The Chair read the motions passed by Regional Council to CDAC members. She noted that staff will provide an update to Council on June 25, 2013 and the deadline for public feedback has been extended to July 19, 2013. Ms. Macrae expressed concern that public input may not be adequately captured at information meetings organized by Councillors where no HRM staff are able to be present.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES -- NONE

5. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

5.1 Correspondence

The Chair informed the Committee that she received a letter, dated June 14, 2013, from Mr. Jeffry Haggett, Project Planner for Genivar Consulting regarding a property located between 2268 and 2376 Sackville Drive. The Committee agreed that staff will respond to Mr. Haggett.

5.2 Petitions -- None

5.3 Presentations -- None

6. REPORTS

6.1 Staff

6.1.1 Overview of Feedback from Phase 3 Public Consultation

The following documents were circulated to the Committee:

- Summary of comments from Open House #1, North Preston Community Centre, June 10, 2013
- Summary of RP+5 Stakeholder Group Consultation, Draft 2 – Revised Regional Plan, Development Industry and Business, June 6, 2013
- Summary comments from Open House #2, Canada Games Centre, June 12, 2013
- Summary of comments from Open House #3, Fall River, June 13, 2013
- Draft tables, dated June 13, 2013, of community feedback and staff responses to Chapters 2 – 9 of the RP+5 Regional Plan

At the Chair's invitation, Mr. Austin French, Manager, Planning and Infrastructure, opened the discussion on the draft table of feedback and responses to Chapter 2: Energy, Environment and Climate Change. He summarized the input from the development community on greenbelting and conservation design options. In response to questions, he clarified the following points:

- the draft By-law to address storm water management compliance is not yet available; the current Policy S-12 on phosphorus measurements has been deleted as unworkable
- the development options that might be available between designated growth centres
- how greenbelting can be addressed and linked under both environment and housing/settlement chapter sections.

Several CDAC members expressed concern that there are too many "places and pieces" in the draft Plan where the direction may be too permissive and where wording needs to be strengthened as part of leading change, encouraging higher standards and emphasizing vision and key principles. Members also noted that, while they feel their role is to speak clearly and strongly on the draft Regional Plan, the task has been made more challenging due to not having information such as what urban growth incentives may be proposed in the forthcoming Centre Plan.

Staff agreed to clarify the description of greenbelting in Chapter 2 and to provide additional specific information on phosphorus and storm water management. Mr. Le Boutillier agreed to forward a report by Dr. David Patriquin, prepared for WRWEO (Woodens River Watershed Environmental Organization), to Mr. French.

Councillor McCluskey and Councillor Nicoll entered the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

The Committee then entered into a discussion of Chapter 3: Settlement and Housing. Dr. Watson-Creed noted that definitions of community food security can be complex and

that the definition used in the Regional Plan needs to be clear and placed appropriately in the document. Councillor Watts raised the question, based on resident feedback she has received, of whether rural issues need their own chapter. She also expressed concern regarding shared HRM and provincial responsibility in terms of monitoring that affordable accessible housing units, once built, keep that designation.

The Committee then concentrated its discussion on the 25% urban growth target. Members emphasized that while tax incentives may not be a primary or driving factor, such incentives are still a factor, one within HRM control, and should not be dismissed. Members also noted that incentives and policy have to be seen to be implemented and executed. Mr. Richard Harvey, Interim Project Manager, informed the Committee that the Centre Plan intends to clarify expectations and create a predictable process for developers and residents and that staff are examining incentives, including an overhaul of the current permit system.

The Chair concluded the discussion noting that the next CDAC meeting would begin with an examination of the 25-50-25 growth targets. She circulated an information page, dated June 2013, titled "Draft Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the Planning Process.

7. **ADDED ITEMS -- None**
8. **NEXT MEETING DATE – June 28, 2013**
9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

Julie Vandervoort
Legislative Support