

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

January 16, 2014

PRESENT:

Councillor Jennifer Watts, Chair
Councillor David Hendsbee
Councillor Wayne Mason
Mr. Walter Regan
Mr. Clive MacGregor
Ms. Elizabeth Pugh
Ms. Janet Barlow
Mr. Gordon Smith
Mr. Matt Worona
Mr. Ben Buckwold
Mr. Mark Coffin

REGRETS:

Ms. Allison Sparling, Vice Chair
Ms. Cynthia Bryant

STAFF:

Ms. Hanita Koblents, Active Transportation Coordinator
Mr. David MacIsaac, Supervisor, Transportation Demand
Management
Ms. Jessie Debaie, Regional Trails Coordinator
Mr. Paul Euloth, Regional Trails Coordinator
Sgt. David Reynolds, Halifax Regional Police
Mr. Darcy Warren, Legislative Support

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. in Room 108, Bloomfield Centre. Round Table introductions were made.

2. SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

MOVED by Mr. Regan, seconded by Mr. McGregor that the election of Chair and Vice Chair be deferred to the February 20, 2014 meeting. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Committee noted a number of community announcements.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 12, 2013

MOVED by Mr. Regan, seconded by Ms. Barlow that the minutes of December 13, 2013 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- 9.1 Josh Bates – Mayor’s Active Transportation Initiative
- 9.2 Transportation Standing Committee Update

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

6. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

6.1 Business Arising – None

7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – December 12, 2013

7.1 Active Transportation Advisory Committee Terms of Reference Review

The Committee entered into discussion on the Terms of Reference.

Mr. MacGregor noted that there are term limits and this should be looked at carefully.

Ms. Barlow stated that Item #14 in the Terms of Reference states that the Committee presents a quarterly report to the Transportation Standing Committee (TSC). She noted that this has not been done.

Mr. MacGregor and Mr. Regan agreed to take a closer look at the Terms of Reference and bring back recommendations to the Committee at the next regular meeting. The members agreed and would like to set priorities for the coming year.

The Committee agreed to have this discussion on the Terms of Reference at the next meeting.

8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

8.1 Correspondence - None

8.2 Petitions – None

8.3 Presentations - None

8.3.1 Crosswalk and Cycling Rules

Sgt. David Reynolds from Halifax Regional Police made a presentation to the Committee on Crosswalk Safety and Cycling Rules. He requested the Committee to ask questions at any time during the presentation.

Sgt. Reynolds stated that he made this presentation to the Crosswalk Safety Advisory Committee in June 2013.

Sgt. Reynolds informed the Committee on the definitions of Crosswalks, Pedestrians and Vehicles as defined in the Motor Vehicle Act. He informed the Committee that Pedestrian and Vehicle Right of Way can be found in Section 125(1) of the Motor Vehicle Act.

Sgt. Reynolds stated that it is an offence to disobey any traffic signal, which includes pedestrians, vehicles and cyclists under Section 126 of the Motor Vehicle Act. He noted that buses may use a bike lane if needed.

A copy of the presentation is on file and the link is provided below.

<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/csac/documents/CrosswalkaccidentpresentationJune202013.pdf>

8.3.2 Chain of Lake Trail Update

Mr. Paul Euloth, Regional Trails Coordinator presented an update to the Committee on the Chain of Lakes Trail.

Mr. Euloth informed the Committee that the tender to the refit of the Chain of Lakes Trail is closing Thursday, January 16. Staff would like to make the same presentation to Halifax Regional Transportation Authority at their earliest convenience.

Mr. Euloth also informed the members that the Active Transportation Standing Committee has approved 7.2 km of trails to be paved.

A copy of the presentation is on file.

9. REPORTS/UPDATES

9.1 Staff

9.1.1 AT Staff – Discussion of 2014/2015 Budget

Ms. Koblents informed the Committee that the 2014-2015 Budget is 95% complete and is on track. She also informed the members that this will be presented to Regional Council in March 2014.

9.1.2 Regional Trails Staff

Ms. Debaie provided the following update to the Committee:

- 1.** Meeting between Staff and HRM Legal and Risk Management: HRM staff met with HRM Legal and HRM Risk Management to discuss the possibility of having a Capital Agreement and Maintenance Agreement for 2014/15. We did not have a Capital Agreement because there was no one with the authority to sign. Once the agreements have been sent to Legal and Risk Management for comment we may be in the position to having agreements for 2014/2015 season pending the decision by Regional Council.
- 2.** Council Report: Mid February has been set for the Council Report date that will set out the conditions and authority to HRM to spend funds on the Community Trails.
- 3.** Sackville Rivers Association Greenway Update: Sackville Rivers Association has let a tender to the WSP Consultants- formerly Genivar to develop Class A Design drawings for the Sackville Greenway sections on public land with options of how to cross a couple of sections of private lands.
- 4.** Porter Lake Active Transportation Plan Update: The Shore Active Transportation Association (SATA) group is going to have a copy of the final Active Transportation plan for Porters Lake in hand by mid- January. The final plan will allow HRM Transportation in cooperation with the SATA group to make decisions about priorities and direction for Active Transportation Standing Committee priorities as set out in the plan.
- 5.** Cole Harbour Open Space Plan: The Cole Harbour Open Space plan has been approved. This is good news for the Cole Harbour Parks and Trails Association since some of their trail planning was on hold until the Plan was in place.
- 6.** The 2014/2015 Capital Budget Process: Staff is presently working on its recommendations for the 2014/2015 budget process. To this end we have been

contacting groups with requests for information about landowner permissions and funding partner commitments to help us make as many accurate recommendations as possible to Regional Council on the projects that have permissions in place and can be shovel ready for funding to be spent in the upcoming year.

7. Tactile Markers for Chain of Lakes Trail: At the Town Hall meeting on accessibility a young man was there that asked if when we paved the Chain of Lakes we could consider putting in tactile pavement markers to pave the way for more sight accessibility in HRM. Regional Trail staff is asking for the help of the Active Transportation Standing Committee to bring this idea forward as a priority.

9.2 Halifax Regional Trails Association

This item was included in with Item 9.1.2.

9.3 Bike Week Sub-Committee

It was noted that the Bike week sub-Committee will be meeting on February 17, 2014.

9.4 Committee Members

No member comments at this time.

9.5 Crosswalk Safety Committee

No update at this time.

10. ADDED ITEMS

10.1 Mayor's Active Transportation Initiative - Mr. Josh Bates

Mr. Bates informed the Committee of the Mayor's Initiative as it pertains to Active Transportation. He informed the Committee of the following recommendations that will be going to Regional Council in February 2014. The following is a list of recommendations that will be going for approval from Regional Council:

- Protected bike lanes and the MacDonald Bridge re-decking
- Cycle Tracks have been in use in other municipalities and it is a possibility to have them in HRM
- Pilot Public Space Areas

Mr. Bates stated that this would be 10% of the budget and hopefully Regional Council will move forward with these recommendations.

MOVED by Mr. Buckwold, seconded by Mr. Regan that the Active Transportation Advisory Committee sends a letter to Regional Council supporting the Mayor's Initiative. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.2 Transportation Standing Committee Update

The Chair informed the Committee of some of the recommendations that will be going forward to Regional Council. She noted that maintenance of bike lanes, request for zebra markings and the DalTRAC study are included in the recommendations.

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

12. NEXT MEETING DATE – February 20, 2014

The next regular meeting will be held on February 20, 2014.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee agreed to cancel the presentation from the Nova Scotia Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (Speed Report) until the Committee hears back from them when the study is completed.

The Chair thanked all those who gave presentations.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Darcy Warren
Legislative Support