



**HALIFAX EXPLOSION ANNIVERSARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
January 27, 2016**

PRESENT: Mr. Craig Walkington, Chair
Mr. David Sutherland
Mr. Dan O'Brien
Mr. Barry Cahill
Mr. William Robinson-Mushkat
Ms. Renee Gruszecki
Ms. Pat Jessup

REGRETS: Councillor Jennifer Watts
Ms. Marilyn Elliott

STAFF: Mr. Peter Greechan, Community Developer, Grants & Contributions, HRM
Finance
Ms. Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Tax, Grants & Special Projects
Mr. Jamie MacLellan, Community Developer, Parks & Recreation
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 Halifax Explosion Anniversary Advisory Committee are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/explosion/index.php>

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. and adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

The Chair welcomed the two new members, Mr. Barry Cahill and Mr. Dan O'Brien

Committee members and staff introduced themselves and provided background for their position on the Halifax Explosion Anniversary Advisory Committee.

The Chair turned over the meeting to the Legislative Assistant.

The Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Halifax Explosion Anniversary Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Ms. Pat Jessup, seconded by Mr. Barry Cahill

THAT Mr. Craig Walkington be nominated Chair of the Halifax Explosion Anniversary Advisory Committee

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Legislative Assistant called three times for any further nominations. There being none, it was:

MOVED by Ms. Jessup seconded by Mr. Cahill

THAT nominations for the position of Chair of the Halifax Explosion Anniversary Advisory Committee be closed.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED

The Legislative Assistant declared Mr. Craig Walkington Chair of the Halifax Explosion Anniversary Advisory Committee

Mr. Walkington then assumed the Chair. The Chair called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Halifax Explosion Anniversary Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Mr. Cahill, seconded by Mr. David Sutherland

THAT Ms. Pat Jessup be nominated Vice Chair of the Halifax Explosion Anniversary Advisory Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Chair called three times for any further nominations. There being none, it was:

MOVED by Mr. Cahill seconded by Mr. Sutherland

THAT nominations for the position of Vice Chair be closed.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Chair declared Ms. Pat Jessup Vice Chair of the Halifax Explosion Anniversary Advisory Committee.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 16, 2015

Mr. Dan O'Brien pointed out that he was referred to as Mr. Dan Brown in the minutes of December 16, 2015

MOVED by Mr. Barry Cahill, seconded by Mr. David Sutherland

THAT the minutes of December 16, 2015 be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED

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

MOVED by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Robinson-Mushkat

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

Ms. Gruszecki and Mr. O'Brien each indicated that they may decide to recuse themselves during the discussion of a specific application due to an acquaintance with someone involved in a particular application.

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence

7.1.1 Correspondence from Ms. Sarah Dennis

The following was before the Committee:

- *A letter from Ms. Sarah Dennis re: Canadian Red Cross*

7.1.2 Correspondence from Mr. Michael Nixon

The following was before the Committee:

- *A letter from Mr. Michael Nixon re: Halifax Explosion sources*

7.1.3 Correspondence from Mr. Leon Matthys

The following was before the Committee:

- *A letter from Mr. Matthys re: Update on previous correspondence regarding his stamp collection*

The Committee received the correspondence. Ms. Peta-Jane Temple indicated that she would respond to the correspondents.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD - NONE

9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Halifax Explosion 100th Anniversary Grants Program Recommended Awards: Fiscal Year 2015-16

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated January 19, 2016

Ms. Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Tax, Grants, and Special Projects, explained the application scoring process to the Committee and provided a brief background on the members of HRM staff chosen to evaluate the applications. She provided an overview of each of the recommended grants and responded to questions of clarification from Committee members regarding the funding policy, the qualifications of applicants, strategies for risk management, and the required documentation for successful applicants.

Committee members commented, in response to recommended grant 6. Symphony Nova Scotia - Interpretation, that it would provide a lasting legacy if a recording of the concert was made, but that a live streaming of the event could potentially discourage actual attendance.

In response to recommended grant 7. St. Paul's Anglican Church – Ceremonial Event, Committee members discussed the importance of being sensitive to the wishes of family members of the victims of the Halifax Explosion. During this discussion the point was raised that that different faiths and different denominations of faith were important distinctions at the time of the Explosion and that it may not be appreciated by living family members to have all survivors memorialized in a single faith-based service.

In consideration of recommended grant 8. Halifax Community Planning and Design Association/PLANifax Production Co-Operative Limited – Educational, Committee members noted that the Hydrostone development was not universally welcomed and was the subject of controversy for at least ten years following its construction. Committee members remarked on the importance of this project providing a careful representation of the history of this district.

10. It was noted that recommended grant 10. Halifax Camerata Singers – Interpretation would perform at the First Baptist Church on Oxford Street and that St. Mark's Baptist, as listed in the staff report, may be a typo.

MOVED by Ms. Jessup, seconded by Ms. Gruszecki

THAT the Halifax Explosion 100th Anniversary Advisory Committee recommend that the Grants Committee recommend Regional Council approve:

1. **10 awards as detailed in the Discussion section of the report dated January 19, 2016 for a combined total of \$90,760 from Account M311-8004 *Community Grants Program*.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Ms. Gruszecki, seconded by Ms. Jessup

THAT the Halifax Explosion 100th Anniversary Advisory Committee recommend that the Grants Committee recommend Regional Council approve

2. **Transfer of \$43,591 from M311-8004 to the Operating Surplus Reserve Q328.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.2 COMMITTEE

9.2.1 George Elliott Clarke – Discussion of Potential Commission

Mr. Barry Cahill explained that George Elliott Clarke has recently been appointed Poet Laureate of Canada and that a feature in the Globe and Mail mentioned that he has contemplated a piece for the 100th anniversary of the Halifax Explosion. Mr. Cahill suggested that HRM may want to consider commissioning the work.

The Committee discussed the possibility of the national poet laureate overshadowing any potential work done by the municipal poet laureate.

In response to questions of clarification from Committee members, Mr. Jamie MacLellan, Community Developer, Parks and Recreation commented that it would be appropriate for HRM staff to contact Mr. Clark and express the interest of the Committee in his potential commemorative work on the Halifax Explosion.

MOVED by Mr. Barry Cahill, seconded by Ms. Renee Gruszecki

THAT the Halifax Explosion 100th Anniversary Advisory Committee advise Staff to contact Mr. George Elliott Clark and express the interest of the Committee in his potential commemorative work on the 100th anniversary of the Halifax Explosion.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10. ADDED ITEMS

- 11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, February 17, 2016, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council Meeting Space, Main Floor, Alderney Gate, 40 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth**

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Cathy Collett
Legislative Assistant