



**POINT PLEASANT PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
January 7, 2016**

PRESENT: Mr. Duncan Morum, Chair
Ms. Helen Sinclair, Vice Chair
Ms. Ann Boswick
Ms. Paula Minnikin
Mr. Malcolm Norton
Ms. Karen Ross
Ms. Dawn Vickers

REGRETS: Mr. Timothy Boudreau
Ms. Janice Cunningham
Councillor Wayne Mason
Ms. Anastasia Smallwood

STAFF: Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor, Major Parks
Ms. Phoebe Rai, Legislative Assistant
Ms. Cailin MacDonald, Legislative Support

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/pppac/160107pppac-agenda.php>

The meeting was called to order at 4:39 p.m., and adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:39 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 5, 2015

MOVED by Ms. Sinclair, seconded by the Chair,

THAT the minutes of November 5, 2015 be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

MOVED by Ms. Ross, seconded by Ms. Sinclair,

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

The Chair shared an update regarding item 5.1 Weekend Bicycle Access which was discussed at the November 5, 2015 Committee meeting. He noted that an accompanying letter was sent to the Halifax and West Community Council requesting that the Committee's concerns to be considered as part of the staff report.

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence – NONE

7.2 Petitions – NONE

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Update from Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor of Major Parks West

Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor of Major Parks, provided an update on Park activities and winter operations. He noted that the Park is now staffed with four individuals which include three dedicated fulltime to Park maintenance staff. He described the various duties involved with winter Park maintenance and service as well as the public safety standards and procedures in place for when a winter storm occurs.

Ms. Sinclair noted that a sign was in disrepair. Mr. Rice responded that the damaged signage located at top of Fort Road, as well as a second sign, has been repaired.

Ms. Sinclair shared that a park user commented to her that a tree dedicated to Dr. Jacques Murphy is dying and suggested that this be looked at. Ms. Sinclair also shared that she noticed park users using wooden fences as stationary exercise equipment. The Committee briefly discussed this item and determined that no action needed to be taken.

9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

9.2.1 Shilling Ceremony

The Chair shared a brief history of the Shilling Ceremony and indicated that the last ceremony took place three years ago. He also noted that the proposed date for the ceremony is September 10, 2016 which will be confirmed at the March Committee meeting. The Chair commented that Ms. Sinclair and Ms. Smallwood have offered to help with the coordination of the Ceremony.

Ms. Sinclair indicated that the Shilling Ceremony offered an opportunity for the Park to be celebrated in a broader way. The Committee discussed budgetary concerns and the implications of raising funds to support a larger ceremony.

The Chair suggested that since the Committee appears enthusiastic to proceed, they can look at forming an informal subcommittee.

9.2.2 PPP Comprehensive Long Term Plan and By-law Review

The Chair shared a brief update on the Point Pleasant Park Comprehensive Long Term Plan and By-law Review. He continued that Mr. Peter Bigelow is leading this review and that a draft of the plan will be shared with the Committee in the coming months.

9.2.3 Off Leash

The Chair provided a brief background on the Committee's position on this matter, stating that the Committee's consensus is that the rules and regulations presently in place are appropriate and that there had not been adequate enforcement of these in the past. Mr. Rice explained that a pilot project was introduced last year which looked at utilizing existing resources including parks staff, law enforcement and animal control to help monitor the Park. He continued that staff and the public were also encouraged to call 311 to report any incidents in the Park which has improved documentation. Mr. Rice shared that the pilot project is continuing through this year and that a future phase of the project includes rolling out a communications strategy in the spring of 2016.

9.2.4 Communications

Ms. Minnikin shared her desire to see clear, concise and simple messages and symbols on visible signage and information posts throughout the Park and commented that she would give further thought to how this can be accomplished to share with the Committee.

9.2.5 Yearly Priorities

The Chair indicated that there was no update on this item.

9.2.6 Mr. Duncan Morum – *The Chronicle Herald* Article, December 28, 2015, “Reader’s Corner: Out-of-control dogs pose dangers”

The Committee briefly discussed contents of *The Chronicle Herald* article, December 28, 2015, “Reader’s Corner: Out-of-control dogs pose dangers” and determined that no response was required since the Committee is in an advisory capacity. The Chair asked Mr. Rice to review the municipal response protocols followed when similar incidents are reported.

- 8. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**
- 9. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE**
- 10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Thursday, March 3, 2016 at 4:30 p.m.**
- 11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

Cailin MacDonald
Legislative Support