

URBAN DESIGN TASK FORCE
MINUTES

June 04, 2008

PRESENT:

Ms. Dale Godsoe, Chair
Mr. Paul MacKinnon, Vice-Chair
Mr. Bernie Smith
Mr. David Garrett
Ms. Linda Garber
Mr. Frank Palermo
Ms. Cathy Carmody
Mr. Stephen Terauds
Ms. Margot Young
Mr. Paul Shakotko

REGRETS:

Mr. Kevin Riles
Ms. Adriane Abbott
Mr. Kendall Taylor
Mr. William Hyde
Councillor Mary Wile
Councillor Jim Smith
Councillor Dawn Sloane

STAFF:

Mr. Andy Fillmore, Project Manager, Capital District
Ms. Jacqueline Hamilton, Manager of Heritage & Design
Mr. Austin French, Manager, Planning Services
Mr. Paul Dunphy, Director, Community Development
Ms. Tiffany Chase, Communications Specialist, Heritage and
Urban Design, Capital District
Ms. Sandra T. Riley, Legislative Assistant

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

As there was no quorum, the Chair called the meeting to order at 11:19 a.m. in Halifax Hall, City Hall, as an *information meeting*.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** -None

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

Additions:

The Chair's Report:

- 8.1 LUB Meeting with Stakeholders
- 8.2 Legislative Amendments
- 8.3 Agenda for Informal Discussion
- 8.4 Meeting with Dan English.

No motion was passed for official approval of these additions as this portion of the meeting was without quorum.

4. **BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES** - NONE

5. **CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS** - NONE

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

6.1 **Project Status Update**

Mr. Fillmore gave an overview of the Briefing Note that was circulated to the Committee, dated June 04, 2008. The briefing note discusses the project under the following headings:

- Legislative Amendments
- Recommended Work Plan For Moving Forward
- Early Release of Barrington Street HCD Financial Incentives
- Opportunities for Other Summertime Work
- Current Development Applications
- Upcoming UDTF Recommendation to Council.

A discussion ensued with Staff giving clarification to the Task Force.

Quorum was established at 11:37 a.m. upon the arrival of Ms. Young.

Mr. Fillmore advised that, throughout the Summer, Staff will pull together some very concise reports about what HRM is doing on each of the matters of transportation, sustainability, affordability, etc. and how HRMbyDesign is interacting with those concerns. The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:18 pm.

The meeting reconvened at 12:36pm.

Ms. Godsoe advised the Task Force that they need to decide on the shape of the report to council in order to update them and show them how the UDTF plans to move forward. Mr. Fillmore advised that Staff is targeting the July 08, 2008 council meeting for the report. He stated that the project schedule will be re-packaged for the entire plan.

Ms. Hamilton advised that the Legal Department will be providing an update to Council on the decision regarding the Legislative Amendments.

The Committee further discussed whether it would be advisable to extend the process to do additional work and having more media coverage as well as public response.

Ms. Garber expressed concerns over other areas, like Dartmouth, being ignored in the plan. She was advised that the other areas would be covered in the next phase.

Mr. Fillmore proceeded to give the Task Force a review of draft documents previously circulated to the committee and took questions of clarification on these documents and concerning electronic communications between Staff and the Task Force. He advised that there have been a couple of changes in the LUB developing since the workshop in May 2008:

- The side yard setback in the middle portion of the building was 18ft. The setback will now be to a *maximum* of 18ft
- The maximum tower dimension was reduced
- Storm surge protection for residential usage has been added along the waterfront
- Protection for open spaces, cultural landmarks, etc.
- Barrington Street plan bylaw - design guidelines have been removed and turned into a design manual; more reflective of the work and the expectations of the Barrington Street Steering Committee

- The maps have been cleaned up and improved for clarity

The Chair recognized all correspondence received since the last meeting of the Task Force that was circulated to the committee prior to the meeting. She thanked Mr. Denault Blouin for his submission, stating that it was well-written and well-thought out.

Ms. Godsoe advised Mr. Phil Pacey, President of Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia, that his letter submitted May 26, 2008 would be taken into consideration as well by Staff and the Task Force.

The Chair advised that on Thursday, September 18, 2008 between 8 p.m. and 9 pm. there is a Urban Nation meeting being held that she recommends that the Urban Design Task Force members and staff register and attend.

7. CORRESPONDENCE PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

8. ADDED ITEMS

THE CHAIR'S REPORT:

The Chair's Report was given prior to quorum and the following four items were discussed, informally by the Task Force.

8.1 LUB Meeting with Stakeholders

This portion of the meeting was an 'information meeting' as the Task Force had not yet reached quorum.

Mr. Fillmore advised the Task Force that there was a technical workshop amongst key stakeholders. He stated that two architects had been retained to work on the LUB for the workshop. He advised that there was concern expressed at the workshop that there should have been more time for review of the LUB, and in more detail. He further advised that, as a result of the timeline being changed, the Task Force will be able to feed more time into the process and have more LUB review.

Mr. Paul McKinnon advised that there can not be any ambiguity on specific detail points such as bonus requirements; everything has to be very clearly laid out. He also expressed the need for more time and concerns with capacity.

Mr. David Garrett commented that there were a lot of different parties represented at the

meeting with the stakeholders, and that he was impressed by the level of cooperation and working by all parties; a very productive meeting.

8.2 Legislative Amendments

Ms. Godsoe gave the Task Force a brief overview on the memorandum of the legislative changes that were not passed. She stated that the changes are on the order paper for October. She further advised that there was a meeting this morning regarding these issues. Mr. MacKinnon further explained to the Committee what the issues are and how they can address them before the Fall.

Ms. Young arrived at 11:37 a.m., establishing quorum for this meeting.

8.3 Agenda for Informal Discussion

Informal discussion.

8.4 Meeting with Dan English

Informal discussion.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

The committee will next meet on Wednesday, June 18, 2008. 11 am to 2 pm.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 p.m.

Sandra T. Riley
Legislative Assistant