



**WESTERN COMMON ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
January 24, 2018**

**PRESENT:** Tom Musial, Chair  
Shirley Jollimore, Vice Chair  
Dusan Soudek  
Kelly Carlton  
Beth McGee  
Wayne Shellnut  
Steve Adams Councillor

**REGRETS:** Frank Johnson  
Jane MacNeill

**STAFF:** Gareth Evans, Recreation Planning Specialist  
Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant  
Simon Ross-Siegel, Legislative Support

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

*The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m., and the Committee adjourned at 7:59 p.m.*

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair, Tom Musial called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m., in the Prospect Road Community Center Art Room, 2141 Prospect Road, Hatchet Lake.

## **2. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Vice Chair Shirley Jollimore noted that the Prospect Road Community Center will host a guided snowshoe hike on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m.

Chair Tom Musial noted that the next meeting of The Council of Community Organizations (COCO) was January 30<sup>th</sup>, hosted by Five Bridges Lakes Wilderness Area.

Councillor Steve Adams noted a community agreement had been recently negotiated for the Western Development Park.

## **3. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Tom Musial, Chair, turned the meeting over to Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant at this time.. Krista Vining called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Western Common Advisory Committee for 2018.

Tom Musial, Chair, nominated Shirley Jollimore. Krista Vining called three times for any further nominations, hearing none, Shirley Jollimore was elected Chair.

Krista Vining called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Western Common Advisory Committee for 2018. Shirley Jollimore nominated Kelly Carlton. Krista Vining called three times for any further nominations, hearing none, Kelly Carlton was elected Vice Chair

## **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 22, 2017**

An amendment to the minutes was suggested by committee member Jane MacNeill in writing. Item 9.1.1 first sentence should read *to determine if it could meet barrier free standards*. Last sentence should read *natural setting, extremely costly and significantly delay the overall park development schedule*.

MOVED by Wayne Shellnut, seconded by Tom Musial

**THAT the minutes of November 22, 2017 be approved as amended**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Addition:

12.1 Tom Musial – Clarification of Halifax & West Community Council July 25, 2018 motion, Item 4.1 respecting bicycles on the barrier-free training in the Western Common Regional Park

MOVED by Tom Musial, seconded by Kelly Carlton

**THAT the agenda be approved as amended.**

Two-third majority vote required.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

- 6. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE
- 7. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE
- 8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE
- 9. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS – NONE
- 10. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

## 11. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

### 11.1 STAFF

#### 11.1.1 Staff Presentation – Committee Orientation

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff presentation

Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant, provided an overview of the following items to the committee:

- Call to Order
- Role of Advisory Board and Committees
- Terms of Reference
- Duties of the Committee
- Role of Chair
- Meetings and Agenda
- Conflict of Interest
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Member Conduct

Krista Vining responded to questions raised by the Committee.

Presenting staff clarified that current vacancies in committee membership roles may apply through the Office of the Municipality to join the Committee. The two current vacancies are public trails, and ecological sciences. The Chair suggested members speak to people they know who may be interested in submitting an application for the vacant positions.

#### 11.1.2 Staff Memorandum – Update on Nichols Lake Trail

The following was before Western Common Advisory Committee:

- A staff memorandum dated January 16, 2018

Gareth Evans, Recreational Planning Specialist shared that since August of 2017, 1000 meters of trail have been completed as per tender 17-010 Nichols Lake Trail Phase 2, and provided information as to the state of the budget, and further grubbing and clearing work.

The Committee requested information be provided for their next meeting on the financial state of the project and what funds, if any remain.

Gareth Evans shared that there is an unresolved question as to a proposed water crossing which is likely to be resolved following the clearing and grubbing in the area, and would benefit from the perspective of a committee member with ecological science expertise.

Gareth Evans advised that staff is considering facilitating temporary construction access to McDonald Lake Drive for a western branch of the Trail, possibly through a temporary road. Members suggested that this would likely to be a topic of interest and concern to local residents. Gareth Evans projected having further details on this issue in early March.

### 11.1.3 Staff Memorandum – Proposed 2018 WCAC Meeting Schedule

The following was before Western Common Advisory Committee:

- A staff memorandum dated November 23, 2017

MOVED by Tom Musial, seconded by Councillor Steven Adams

**THAT the Western Common Advisory Committee approved the proposed 2018 meeting schedule as outlined in attachment 1 of the staff report dated November 23, 2017.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### 11.2 COMMITTEE – NONE

### 11.3 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES – NONE

## 12. ADDED ITEMS

### 12.1 Tom Musial – Clarification of Halifax & West Community Council July 25, 2018 motion, Item 4.1 respecting bicycles on the barrier-free training in the Western Common Regional Park

Tom Musial sought clarification on a motion passed by Halifax & West Community Council on July 25, 2017, Item 4.1 Submission during Public Participation - May 30, 2017 – Bicycles on the barrier-free trails in the Western Commons Regional Park.

Staff clarified the procedural history of a community member presentation by John Cascaden to Halifax and West Community Council and clarified that all requested meetings and follow ups indicated in the minutes had occurred in the proper committees. Gareth Evans, Reactional Planning Specialist further confirmed that they had follow up and spoke to this matter at the Western Common Advisory Committee's September 27, 2017 meeting.

Several committee members sought to clarify information about the trail width, particularly as it related to barrier-free trails and entranceways to the park.

MOVED by Tom Musial

**THAT the Western Common Advisory Committee re-examine the Wilderness Common Master Plan for trail development in the Wilderness Common Park to determine what sites are of significance within the park relating to trail access and existing trail networks.**

Discussion was held with a suggestion being made that the Committee ask staff to provide information for their next meeting on the reasoning for choosing six feet wide trails over ten feet. Gareth Evans noted that the largest trails, being constructed as per the Western Common Wilderness Common Master Plan, would be barrier-free trails, however some wider pre-existing trails are identified in the Plan's maps. Gareth clarified that restricting the trail width of trails to be constructed to that of barrier-free trails was consistent with the Plan's goal to maintain and embrace a wilderness experience with minimal interference to the park environment. **There being no seconder**, and in consideration of staff providing information at the next meeting around the rationale for 6-foot-wide trail widths, **Tom Musial withdrew the motion.**

## 13. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Amy Hockin, Prospect Village, wanted to see further bicycle access into the Wilderness Commons Park. She stated that as a cycle trainer, she finds it difficult to gain access, and risky to cycle on the roads to the entryways. She was concerned about the lack of public transportation to the Park's entry points.

**14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, March 28, 2018** at 6:30 p.m., Prospect Road Community Center Art Room, 2141 Prospect Road, Hatchet Lake.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Simon Ross-Siegel  
Legislative Assistant