



**COMMUNITY PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
January 20, 2022**

PRESENT: Councillor Trish Purdy, Chair
Councillor Patty Cuttell, Vice-Chair
Councillor Sam Austin
Councillor Lindell Smith
Councillor Lisa Blackburn
Deputy Mayor Pamela Lovelace

GUESTS: Councillor Waye Mason
Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon

STAFF: Donna Boutilier, Solicitor
Denise Schofield, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Citizen Services
Simon Ross-Siegel, Legislative Assistant

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

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, information items circulated, and video (if available) are online at halifax.ca.

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m., and recessed at 10:13 a.m. Standing Committee reconvened at 10:21 a.m. and recessed at 11:50 a.m. Standing Committee reconvened at 11:55 p.m. Standing Committee moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 12:41 p.m. and reconvened at 12:57 p.m. Standing Committee adjourned at 12:59 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

1.1 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Simon Ross-Siegel, Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT Councillor Purdy be nominated for Chair of the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Purdy accepted the nomination for Chair.

Ross-Siegel called three times for any further nominations. There being none, Councillor Purdy was declared Chair of the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Blackburn, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lovelace

THAT nominations be closed.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Purdy called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lovelace

THAT Councillor Cuttell be nominated for Vice Chair of the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Cuttell accepted the nomination for Vice Chair.

The Chair called three more times for any further nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee. There being none, Councillor Cuttell was declared Vice Chair of the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lovelace

THAT nominations be closed.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 8, 2021

MOVED by Councillor Blackburn, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lovelace

THAT the minutes of December 8, 2021 be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions: None

Deletions: None

As provided for in Section 37 (1) of Administrative Order One, Standing Committee requested that items 10.1 and 17. be considered prior to item 8.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS

8.1 Halifax Common Master Plan

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated November 4, 2021
- Correspondence submitted by Peggy Cameron, Phyllis Cox, William White, Louise Burchell, Bruce Smith, Cléo Burke, Dawn Davis, Grant Curtis, Alex Watters, Silver Frith, Andréa Lussing, Sarah Jane Blenkhorn, Patricia Brennan-Alpert, Betsy Chambers, K. MacLean, Kirsten Saliani, Tom Bell, Crane Stookey, Claire McNeil, Sheena MacKenzie, Louis Lemoine, Molly DeShong, Anne Shannon, Hugh and Dorothy Owens, Vern and Judy Hicks, Shirley Dean, Aurora Feletti, Peter McCurdy, Paul Routhier, Lily Barraclough, Gilliam Webster, Tim Leary, Wendy Scott, Alan, Fine, Harold LeBlanc, Marie Welton, Alan Collins, Karen Embree, Jessica Winton, Laurie MacKay, Michael Bolton, Caroline Anderson, Margaret Donahoe, David Garrett, Brenda Ryan, Kerstin Martin, Lesley Anna Patten, Julie DuBose, Judith Fingard, Howard Epstein, Catherine Kingston, Sharon Ross, Beverly Miller, Suzanne Townsend, Marilynne Bell, Alex Connolly, Elizabeth McCarthy, and Julie Post

Motion on the floor from the December 8, 2021 meeting of the Standing Committee:

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Cuttell

THAT Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council:

- 1. Repeal the 1994 Halifax Common Plan and adopt the Halifax Common Master Plan (Master Plan) as contained in Attachment A of the November 4, 2021 report, as a guiding document for open space planning, management, and development within the Halifax Common; and**
- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to undertake periodic reviews at least every five years of the Master Plan for any updates.**

Richard Harvey, Manager of Policy & Planning, answered questions of clarification from members of the Standing Committee.

Deputy Mayor Lovelace proposed an amendment to consolidate elements of the Halifax Common Master Plan and the Halifax Common Report as well as to further opportunities for further public engagement.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee amend to the motion to read:

3. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a supplementary report to include:

- (a) Developing a consolidated plan**
- (b) Opportunities for further public engagement**
- (c) Timelines on further development and consultation on Wanderer's Block**

Councillor Blackburn proposed the addition of a clause to recommend approving the plan in principle. As provided for in section 53 (2) of Administrative Order One, Respecting the Procedures of the Council, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion as amended now read:

THAT Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee amend to the motion to read:

3. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a supplementary report to include

- (a) Developing a consolidated plan**
- (b) Opportunities for further public engagement**
- (c) Timelines on further development and consultation on Wanderer's Block**

4. Approve the plan in principle and direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a final consolidated plan for adoption by Council

Councillor Smith proposed the addition wording for clause 3 to specify the recommendation to develop a consolidated plan to outline the implementation and timelines regarding the detailed business plan. As provided for in section 53 (2) of Administrative Order One, Respecting the Procedures of the Council, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion as amended now read:

THAT Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee amend to the motion to read:

3. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a supplementary report to include

- (a) Developing a consolidated plan that outlines the implementation and timelines regarding the detailed business plan**
- (b) Opportunities for further public engagement**
- (c) Timelines on further development and consultation on Wanderer's Block**

4. Approve the plan in principle and direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a final consolidated plan for adoption by Council

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Cuttell

THAT Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee extend the meeting time one hour pursuant to Administrative Order One, Section 34.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Deputy Mayor Lovelace proposed several changes to the wording of the proposed amendment to eliminate potential redundancies from the recommendations and the addition of wording to clause 1. As provided for in section 53 (2) of Administrative Order One, Respecting the Procedures of the Council, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion as amended now read:

THAT Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee amend to the motion to read:

1. Repeal the 1994 Halifax Common Plan and adopt the Halifax Common Master Plan (Master Plan) in principle as a guiding document as contained in Attachment A of the November 4, 2021 report, as a guiding document for open space planning, management, and development within the Halifax Common; and

...

3. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a supplementary report to include:

(a) Opportunities for further public engagement

(b) Timelines on further development and consultation on Wanderer's Block

4. Approve the plan in principle and direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a final consolidated plan for adoption by Council.

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.

The motion as amended now read:

THAT Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council:

1. Repeal the 1994 Halifax Common Plan and adopt the Halifax Common Master Plan (Master Plan) in principle as a guiding document as contained in Attachment A of the November 4, 2021 report, as a guiding document for open space planning, management, and development within the Halifax Common; and

2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to undertake periodic reviews at least every five years of the Master Plan for any updates.

3. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a supplementary report to include:

(a) Opportunities for further public engagement

(b) Timelines on further development and consultation on Wanderer's Block

4. Approve the plan in principle and direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a final consolidated plan for adoption by Council.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

10.1 Correspondence

The Legislative Assistant noted that the Municipal Clerk's Office received correspondence relating to item 8.1, which was circulated to members of the Standing Committee.

For a detailed list of the correspondence received, refer to the specific item.

10.2 Petitions – None

10.3 Presentations

10.3.1 Every One Every Day Kjpuktuk Project Update – Aimee Gasparetto, Program Director, Wije'winen

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A presentation request dated October 26, 2021
- A presentation on the Every One Every Day Kjpuktuk Project
- A handout

Aimee Gasparetto, Program Director, Wije'winen, and Wyatt White, Program Co-director, provided the Standing Committee with a presentation on the Every One Every Day Kjpuktuk project and the implementation of the program in the Wije'winen centre. Gasparetto answered questions from members of Standing Committee.

The Chair thanked Gasparetto for the presentation.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

12. REPORTS – NONE

13. MOTIONS

13.1 Councillor Austin: Heritage Grant Program Review

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A Request for Consideration form

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Cuttell

THAT Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee request a staff report to review AO-2014-002-ADM the Heritage Incentives Administrative Order, and provide recommendations regarding possible amendments to the maximum amounts available to eligible property owners, the eligibility criteria, and the overall annual budget of the program. The resulting staff report to proceed first to the Heritage Advisory Committee for consideration.

Councillor Austin spoke to the Standing Committee about the motion. This motion emerges from a discussion at Regional Council regarding the efficacy of the current incentive program.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Blackburn

THAT Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee convene to In Camera (In Private) to discuss Item 14.1 PERSONNEL MATTER.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14.1 PERSONNEL MATTER

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A private and confidential staff recommendation report dated December 14, 2021

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private) and ratified in public as follows:

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lovelace

THAT Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee:

1. Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential staff report dated December 14, 2021; and
2. Direct that the staff report dated December 14, 2021 be maintained as private and confidential.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

15. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Howard Epstein, a representative of the Friends of the Halifax Common, expressed concerns regarding the Halifax Common Master Plan, including concerns that the public engagement conducted to form the document preceded the Covid-19 pandemic which saw significant changes in the use of the Halifax Common. The speaker encouraged Standing Committee to defeat the staff recommendation and direct the Chief Administrative Officer to undertake further public consultation.

Beverly Miller, a representative of the Friends of the Halifax Common, expressed concerns regarding the Halifax Common Master Plan. The speaker read sections of the Halifax Common proclamation and section of the Halifax Charter regarding the Halifax Common. The speaker encouraged Standing Committee to defeat the staff recommendation and direct the Chief Administrative Officer to undertake further public consultation.

Angie Holt, Executive Director & Head Coach of the Halifax Lancers, expressed concerns regarding the Halifax Common Master Plan, in particular the potential impact of the Master Plan on the Halifax Lancers programming. The speaker encouraged Standing Committee to defeat the staff recommendation and direct the Chief Administrative Officer to undertake further public consultation. Responding to questions from Standing Committee, the speaker noted that while the staff report does address some concerns, there are outstanding concerns that the language of the staff report will not be incorporated into the Master Plan itself.

David Garrett, a representative of the Friends of the Halifax Common, expressed concerns regarding the Halifax Common Master Plan. The speaker noted several specific concerns which the speaker also outlined in correspondence submitted to the Standing Committee. The speaker encouraged Standing Committee to defeat the staff recommendation and direct the Chief Administrative Officer to undertake further public consultation.

The Chair noted that there were no other registered public speakers and closed public participation.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – February 17, 2022

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:59 p.m.

Simon Ross-Siegel
Legislative Assistant