



**ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
January 19, 2017**

PRESENT: Mr. Ben Buckwold, Chair
Councillor Wayne Mason
Councillor David Hendsbee
Ms. Ella Dodson
Ms. Elizabeth Pugh
Mr. Walter Regan
Ms. Kelsey Lane, Vice Chair
Mr. David Jackson
Ms. Eliza Jackson

REGRETS: Ms. Julie Tompa
Mr. James McMillin
Jessie Debaie, Asst. Trails Coordinator
Councillor Tim Outhit

STAFF: Mr. David MacIsaac, Active Transportation Program Supervisor
Ms. Elora Wilkinson, Planner II
Mr. Jacob Ritchie, Project Manager Urban Design
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant
Ms. Leslie Neate, 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 Active Transportation Advisory Committee are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/170119atac-agenda.php>

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. and adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at **4:00** p.m.

1.1 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

The Chair turned the meeting over to the Legislative Assistant for the election of Chair.

The Legislative Assistant opened the floor for any nominations for the position of Chair.

MOVED by Mr. Regan, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT Mr. Buckwold be nominated as Chair.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Legislative Assistant ask for any further nominations. Hearing none, the Legislative Assistant asked for motion to close nominations.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Ms. Dodson

THAT the nominations for Chair be closed.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Legislative Assistant declared Mr. Buckwold the Chair of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee and turned the meeting over to the Chair. The Chair thanked everyone for their confidence.

The Chair opened the floor for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair.

MOVED by Ms. Jackson, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT Ms. Lane be nominated to the position of Vice-Chair.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Chair asked for any further nominations. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to close nominations.

MOVED by Mr. Regan, seconded by Councillor Mason

THAT nominations for Vice-Chair to be closed.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Chair declared Ms. Lane Vice-Chair of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee. Ms. Lane thanked all.

Councillor Mason and Councillor Hendsbee noted that this meeting would be their last on this committee as Regional Council would be making new appointments to its Boards and Committees at the next Council meeting, and other Councillors will be appointed.

- Community Announcements were provided following the Approval of the Order of Business and Approval of Additions and Deletions

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 17, 2016

MOVED by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Regan

THAT the minutes of November 17, 2016 be approved.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

The Chair suggested, and the Committee agreed, that the Centre Plan presentation be moved up on the agenda, and dealt with as the first order of business.

MOVED by Mr. Regan, seconded by Ms. Dodson

THAT the agenda be approved, as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Regan advised he attended the Lucasville Trail Group meeting. They are trying to get organized to build a trail along Lucasville Road. He further announced that Jessie Debaie, HRM Asst. Trails Coordinator, is retiring and suggested the Chair send a letter of appreciation to her on behalf of the committee, to which the Chair agreed.

In response to a question by Mr. Regan as to whether the Committee had ever received a speaker from the Green Network, the Chair advised it did not; and he would follow up on this matter.

Ms. Dobson inquired about a SHIFT event on February 2, 2017. Ms. Lane advised it is a Pecha Kucha event which is a kick-off event and a fundraiser for the annual SHIFT conference. More detail can be located at the Dalhousie Planning Conference website.

Ms. Lane advised that the Winter Bicycle Week is kicking off on February 10, 2017. It is still open for groups who wish to participate. Currently, there are 13 groups that are involved in supplying rides or discounts or vendors. She thanked Halifax Bike Week for their support in putting this on.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

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

7.3 Presentations

7.3.1 Centre Plan – Elora Wilkinson, Planner II, HRM

Ms. Wilkinson provided a Draft Centre Plan Update to the Active Transportation Advisory Committee. The Centre Plan is a municipal planning strategy for Regional Centre, described as Halifax Peninsula and Dartmouth within the Circumferential Highway. The goal of the plan is to direct future growth in this area in a way that is comprehensive and that looks not just at land use but also starts to think about the effects of land use

In her remarks, Ms. Wilkinson noted that the results of public engagement synthesized into four “What We’ve Heard” reports. She added that these documents are an analysis and summary of what staff have heard and how they use it to influence the plan.

Relating to Active Transportation, she highlighted the following:

Four Core Concepts:

- Complete Communities
- Human Scale
- Pedestrians
- Strategic Urban Structure Map

Urban Structure:

- Established Residential Communities
- Downtowns
- Centres
- Corridors
- Future Growth Nodes
- Employment Lands

With regard to Active Transportation, Ms. Wilkinson further noted three policy directives for the mobility section of the Centre Plan:

- 2.2.2 a Complete Streets
- 2.2.4 b Active Transportation
- 2.2.5 d New Connections through Larger Blocks

In concluding her presentation, she advised that staff intend to take an updated plan to Community Design Advisory Committee next month. Ms. Wilkinson ended her presentation and asked for any questions. A discussion ensued with Ms. Wilkinson and Mr. Ritchie responding the questions.

The Chair thanked Ms. Wilkinson for her presentation and information.

8. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

8.1 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

Ms. Dodson noted concern about the term “complete streets” and the need for a clear definition on what constitutes a complete street. A brief discussion ensued. Mr. MacIsaac pointed out the Centre Plan is working to address those concerns.

8.2 STAFF UPDATES

Mr. MacIsaac commented on:

Complete projects:

- Devonshire Bike Lane completed; signs coming soon
- Greenway connecting St. Margaret's Bay Rd. into Chain of Lakes
- Finished greenway on Dartmouth harbour front
- Bissett Lake greenway now complete
- Paved shoulders on Cole Harbour Road (paved and painted)

Planning projects underway:

- South Park bike lane and enhancement
- Forrest Hills Parkway
- McDonald Bridge Bikeway
- Redesign options for Chebucto, Cunard, and Windsor streets

Mr. MacIsaac provided further updates to advise:

- They are looking at a plan for next year on backlog of projects not completed last year and putting finishing touches on next year's capital budget.
- The Hwy 107 extension may happen. Looking to extend from Akerley to Bedford/Lower Sackville with an Active Transportation greenway built along side of it (7 kms).
- Starting to plan Bike Week 2017 soon.
- Trans-Canada Trail report coming to TSC next Thursday giving staff the direction to work with that Trans-Canada Trails group.

Councillor Mason left the meeting at 5:07 p.m. The Chair thanked him for his work on the committee

Ms. Dodson asked about the Cogswell intersection demolition and whether there is a plan around this in regard to pedestrians. The Chair advised he will follow up and ask for an update on any interim provisions for pedestrians.

The Chair advised he received a request through Halifax Regional Trails Association. There has been a fair amount of discussion among trail managers relating to complaints from trail users about cyclists passing too fast with no bell use. HRTA has indicated this is one of the biggest user complaint issues. They wanted to suggest the creation of a by-law which would require cyclists to use a bell when riding on a trail and passing pedestrians. They have approached the Active Transportation Advisory Committee to begin a conversation with the Municipality. They are possibly looking to advocate for some kind of regulation through a municipal by-law.

Through committee discussion on this matter, it was noted that the Motor Vehicle Act only requires the bell, but there is no regulation to indicate it must be used. The Chair asked Mr. MacIsaac if it is possible to move forward with this topic. Mr. MacIsaac noted that this is something that needs more time and, currently, there isn't the staff resources to investigate best practices in other jurisdictions.

The Chair agreed to take back some comments on this general discussion and would suggest to HRTA that, if they wished, they could present to this Committee.

8.3 APPROVAL OF 2017 MEETING SCHEDULE

The following was before Advisory Committee:

- Proposed Meeting Schedule 2017 – Active Transportation Advisory Committee

MOVED by Mr. Regan, seconded by Ms. Lane

THAT the 2017 Meeting Schedule – Active Transportation Advisory Committee be accepted as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED

9. **ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING – February 16, 2017**

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Leslie Neate
Legislative Support