



**HALIFAX EXPLOSION 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
June 29, 2017**

**PRESENT:** Craig Walkington, Chair  
Pat Jessup, Vice Chair  
Marilyn Elliott  
Barry Cahill  
David Sutherland  
William Robinson-Mushkat  
Renee Gruszecki

**REGRETS:** Dan O'Brien

**STAFF:** Elizabeth Taylor, Manager, Culture and Events; Parks, Recreation and Communities  
Kellie MacIvor, Cultural Asset Manager; Parks, Recreation and Communities  
Peter Greechan, Community Developer, Grants and Contributions; Finance & Asset Management  
Sharon Chase, Legislative Support, Office of the Municipal Clerk

*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 3:00 p.m. and the Committee adjourned at 4:09 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm at the Nova Scotia Community College- IT Campus, 5685 Leeds Street, Halifax.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 17, 2017**

A spelling correction was noted for a name on page 2 of the May 17, 2017 minutes.

MOVED by Pat Jessup, seconded by Marilyn Elliott

**THAT the minutes of May 17, 2017 be approved as amended.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Additions:

7.1.2 Correspondence from Linda Campbell dated June 26, 2017

7.1.3 Correspondence from Ruth-Ellen Jackson, Northwood Halifax Campus, dated June 27, 2017

7.1.4 Correspondence from Ramona McVicker, Big Shoe Marketing, dated June 27, 2017

7.1.5 Correspondence from Alec McCleave, United Neighbourhood Working Committee, dated June 28, 2017

MOVED by Renee Gruszecki, seconded by Marilyn Elliott,

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

Two-third majority vote required.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

**4.1 Update- Creation of Halifax Explosion Commemorative Coin**

Kellie McIvor, Cultural Asset Manager, reported that Pressed Metals has been bought by Rideau Recognition. The order for the commemorative coin will have to be re-quoted by the new owner, who is confident that the production timeline for the coins can still be met.

**5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS - NONE**

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

**7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**7.1 Correspondence**

**7.1.1 Sabrina Groomes, Harper Collins Canada Ltd., dated June 19, 2017**

The Committee requested that the Legislative Assistant respond with an acknowledgement, suggesting that the event could be added to the website and the contact information for Elizabeth Taylor should be shared.

**7.1.2 Linda Campbell, Deaf Experience film project, dated June 26, 2017**

The Committee requested that the Legislative Assistant respond with an acknowledgement and refer them to HRM's special events team.

**7.1.3 Ruth Ellen-Jackson, Northwood Halifax Campus, dated June 27, 2017**

The Committee requested that the Legislative Assistant respond with an acknowledgement and encourage them in planning this worthy event. HRM's special events group may be able to assist them.

**7.1.4 Ramona McVicker, Big Shoe Marketing, dated June 27, 2017**

The Committee requested that the Legislative Assistant respond with an acknowledgement, informing them that the request for a speaker from the Committee was tabled for consideration but declined.

**7.1.5 Alec McCleave, United Neighbourhood Working Committee, dated June 28, 2017**

The Committee requested that the Legislative Assistant respond with an acknowledgement. This request does not fall within the Committee's mandate. This matter should be referred to HRM's Planning and Development. It was suggested that a response from the Clerk's Office might be appropriate.

**7.2 Petitions - None**

**7.3 Presentations - None**

**8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

**9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

**9.1 STAFF- UPDATES**

Kellie MacIvor provided an update on the Fort Needham Project. The new bells were installed on Friday. They ring from 10am-7pm and sound richer in tone, chiming the Westminster chime on the hour. There is new technology for the bells including a new keyboard, panel, remote control options and the capacity to record and program music. In July, work will take place painting the canopies, cleaning and installing bird screening. Work is also happening in the park with new paths and lighting. Two hymns will be recorded to be played at the December event. It was suggested that it would be nice to have a recording of the bells overlaid on the website.

Elizabeth Taylor, Manager Culture and Events, has been in contact with George Elliott Clarke who appreciated being asked to contribute. The poem will be ready by October and the poet will attend the event and recite their poem, as well as reading the poem at the Central Library's event. The Central Library will hold that event the evening of the 6<sup>th</sup> which will include a concert with Symphony Nova Scotia, readings, movie screening and a book of remembrance. Elizabeth Taylor has viewed a rough cut of a documentary prepared by the CBC. It included many interviews, technical reenactments and images; and contains the highest concentration of uncirculated footage and images to date. They intend to use this as an educational tool to be offered to schools. The North Branch Library will host CBC who will be demonstrating their Google Headset project the Saturday before December 6<sup>th</sup> and will then be at the Central Branch Library on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Staff are monitoring the status of the commemorative stamp. 750 invitations have been sent out and RSVP's will be managed by the Mayor's Office. The Committee will be kept up to date on the numbers. Janet Kitz's role in the ceremony and event was discussed acknowledging her important contributions. The Committee requested an update on the number of self-identified survivors from the Clerk's Office.

At the request of the Committee, staff reviewed the communication strategy which is presently focused on HRM's website and 100 years 100 stories. It is felt that momentum will begin to build in September and

there can be strategies to spur momentum if necessary. The Province will attend September's meeting to share their efforts. CTV will be launching a media campaign in July and on August 28<sup>th</sup> will begin a story a day for 100 days. HRM staff have chosen an image which depicts the clock face and caption "an explosion that stopped time". It will be used on posters to be displayed at: ferry terminals, buses, recreation centres and Moosehead games. The demographic of the target audience was considered in choosing what media and technology was used. Peter Greechan, Community Developer Grants and Contributions, shared that those awarded grants in this intake have been encouraged to use 100 years 100 stories website to post their events, stories and projects and mark the interactive map. The present site will transition and provide a link to the tourism portal for national exposure and to better display events and information. A design has also been chosen for the physical marker project. There will be 3 markers at Fort Needham and 6 around the city by December 6<sup>th</sup>. Staff will bring this project brief and the design chosen to July's meeting. This project will include a companion website with additional information on the sites identified by these markers. This should also help in building momentum and awareness. Each of these pieces will come together allowing for an impactful launch.

## **9.2 COMMITTEE**

### **9.2.1 Continue Planning for Needham Memorial Bell Tower Time Capsule #2**

The following was before the Committee:

- Time Capsule Update memo dated May 17/17

Kellie MacIvor confirmed that the contents for the capsule have been finalized and collection is ongoing. The Committee asked for an update from the Clerk's Office on the official letters being requested. It was suggested that Capsule #1 be opened at the HRM Archives during August's meeting. Kellie reviewed a proposed guest list and agenda for this event and will organize the logistics for the opening. There could be an opportunity to share this with the public using Facebook Live or by photographing and scanning contents and making them available digitally; these will be considered. It was noted that the condition of time capsule contents can be uncertain. This would also be an appropriate time to share the artifacts going into the Capsule #2 and have Janet Kitz sign a first edition of Shattered City which is being sourced.

Chair Craig Walkington is being interviewed tomorrow by Rick Howe regarding the time capsule. Their previous interview about Vince Coleman had great reach which helps build interest and momentum going forward.

### **9.2.2 Update- Virtual Time Capsule**

Kellie MacIvor advised that unfortunately there are not the necessary resources to move forward with the Virtual Time Capsule. However, a digital storage capsule can go ahead and contain PDF files. Maps and masterplans may be best suited to this format. Films would be stored separately. Kellie will update the table identifying any digital content for July's meeting. The Committee asked about public contributions to the digital content. Again, resources would be required to manage open source content which makes this unfeasible. There may be opportunities for public contributions on the existing web sites.

Renee Gruszecki reported that she had attended the opening of the Collision on the Narrows exhibit at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic and encourages Committee members to visit. It was confirmed that the August 16<sup>th</sup> meeting would take place at the HRM Archives, 81 Ilsley Ave., Dartmouth. The meeting time was tentatively booked from 2:30- 4:30 pm with an abbreviated regular agenda first, followed by the Capsule opening.

## **10. ADDED ITEMS- NONE**

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING- Wednesday, July 19, 2017, 3-5pm, NSCC IT Campus, 5685 Leeds Street, Halifax**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

Sharon Chase  
Legislative Support