



**ARTSHALIFAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
August 24, 2017**

- Present:** Jeremy Banks, Chair
Peggy Walt
Dustin Harvey
Claire Hodge
Pamela Lovelace (by telephone)
- Staff:** Jamie MacLellan, Community Developer, Culture & Events
Shari Dillman, Administrative Support, Culture & Events
- Regrets:** Alex Meade
- Absent:** Kim Cain

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

The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to the Committee are available online:

<https://www.halifax.ca/city-hall/boards-committees-commissions/a-c/artshalifax-advisory-committee>

The meeting was called to order at 3:14pm and the Committee adjourned at 5:06pm.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:14pm at the Halifax Regional Municipality – 40 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth, Floor 1, Boardroom 1, across from Customer Service.

The Chair welcomed members of the Committee and staff in attendance around the table, as well as via telephone communication.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 20, 2017

MOVED by Peggy Walt, seconded by Jeremy Banks

THAT the minutes of July 20, 2017 be approved as distributed.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

9.1 Background of new members requested to share with Committee.

MOVED by Claire Hodge, seconded by Jeremy Banks

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

Action items from July 20, 2017 meeting:

ACTION: Peggy Walt, as Acting Chair, to contact Jeremy Banks, Chair, to discuss changing meeting date. **COMPLETED**

ACTION: Shari Dillman to book a boardroom for August 24, 2017 proposed meeting. **COMPLETED**

ACTION: Jamie MacLellan to send the two reports ArtsHalifax Committee assisted in writing to Committee. **COMPLETED**

Action items from June 22, 2017 meeting:

ACTION: Committee to advise staff regarding the documentation they would like posted on the website. **ONGOING**

ACTION: Chair to submit request to the Office of the Municipal Clerk to present to CPED on ArtsHalifax. **ONGOING**

Action items from previous meetings:

ACTION: Committee to submit recommendation report by September 15th, 2017. **ONGOING**

5. **CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**
6. **CORESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS – NONE**
7. **INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**
8. **REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

Committee inquired if the future ArtsHalifax Committee members can be selected by current members. Staff advised that there is an HRM application process managed by the Office of the Municipal Clerk whereby Regional Council and the relevant community councils appoint members to municipal advisory boards, committees, and commissions, and also to some external boards based on staff recommendations. After the call has been closed, applications are reviewed and presented confidentially to Committee or Regional Council. The selection process may involve an interview with relevant staff and members of council. Staff or previous committee members do not choose new members and by-pass the municipal process.

8.1 REVIEWING SECTIONS OF THE REPORT COMPLETED TO DATE

Prior to the meeting, member Peggy Walt shared a draft version of the background section for the final report they prepared. The committee member gave a brief overview of the background section to the Committee for content purposes.

It was discussed whether the Halifax Library model was what the Committee wants ArtsHalifax to resemble. Thirteen members may seem like a large board. Perhaps shorten the quantity of board members.

Committee members agree with the independent corporation idea and the three-year funding option.

Committee members stated they are not strongly knowledgeable in various government boards and do not have another model to compare it to. Members present stated they do not disagree with using the Halifax Library model.

ArtsNS is not a model that Committee members wants to emulate. ArtsNS is more an arm of government, rather than 'arm's length' which is what the Committee is striving to achieve.

Consensus from the Committee present agreed this is a great start to the report. Committee discussed the meaning of terminology used "ex-officio". Explanation can mean "a non-voter position."

Agreed that the Halifax Library board seems like the best option to move forward.

Pamela Lovelace agreed to focus on writing the governance section of the report mirroring the Halifax Library board structure and have submitted to the group prior to the next meeting scheduled for September 7, 2017.

Prior to the meeting, member Dustin Harvey shared a draft version of the core values section for the final report they prepared and gave a brief overview of the core values section for content purposes. Their document reflects terms of reference.

The Committee agreed to review the core values document line-by-line for content. At this time, grammatical items can be corrected offline using Slack. Each line item was reviewed and Committee members marked "Agree," "Disagree," or "Requires more discussion/interpretation."

1.1 Requires more discussion/interpretation.

Word “product” was discussed. Committee members voiced concerns to use of this terminology. The word “product” may be problematic to some artists. Committee members suggested to find a balance and possibly adding a comma and additional comments to expand the statement.

1.2 Agree. Possibly change numeric order with 1.1.

1.3 Agree.

1.4 Requires more discussion/interpretation.

“ArtsHalifax provides clarity regarding what type of growth should occur and how it can be supported.” Committee members feel this statement is too strong.

1.5 Agree.

2.1 Agree.

2.2 Requires more discussion/interpretation.

Committee suggested ‘education’ should be added with commitment. “... in order to strengthen their education and commitment to the arts;...” Possibly adding a line or two supporting the core concepts and themes - sustainability, cultural spaces and places, jobs and economic development, and future growth.

2.3 Agree.

Core Concepts and Themes heading. Committee suggested adding ‘Legacy Strengthening’ to heading.

3.1 Requires more discussion/interpretation.

Agrees with line item, however is a bit hard to read and absorb. Requires cleaning up.

4.1 Agree.

Goal 1 Requires more discussion/interpretation.

Terminology “project funding” and “micro funding” is confusing. What is the difference between the two? Terms require further explanation.

Goal 2 Agree.

It was suggested that rather than using “national average of municipal funding,” use confirmed number for 2017-2018 funding found within the SACAC report.

Goal 3.1 Requires more discussion/interpretation.

Committee members would like to see more examples of how ArtsHalifax can use the city that we live in to support, donate, and achieve private funding for the Arts. A Committee member suggested an example could be donating the first floor of an office tower to the Arts and receives a tax relief for the donation.

Goal 3.2 Requires more discussion/interpretation.

Who are our partners? “Partners” requires further clarification.

Goal 3.3 Requires more discussion/interpretation.

Intent of statement is good. Clarification required on “creative sector.” In addition, remove “Regional Culture Plan” and replace with “HRM Culture & Heritage Priorities Plan.”

Goal 4 Requires more discussion/interpretation.

Principle is good. Objectives are too brief. Requires expansion using specific examples quoted from research.

Goal 5 Requires more discussion/interpretation.

Agrees with Objectives, however requires rewording.

Committee questioned whether “... benefiting from the latest developments in energy technology” may negatively affect those artists who cannot afford to participate in sustainable practices.

Elaborate on “incentives for artists”.

Ran out of time to continue reviewing core values document. Agreed to work on document offline using Slack.

Committee member suggested the final report has an addendum to include a glossary page to ensure terminology is defined for the readers as ArtsHalifax intended.

8.2 DETERMINING NEXT STEPS

Dustin Harvey’s document is online for members to review and make comments.

ACTION: All members proceed with online discussion of core values draft document.

ACTION: Pamela Lovelace to take the lead on the governance section, and submit draft document to Slack by September 7, 2017.

It was suggested that the committee describe four examples and highlight the one that resembles what the Committee wants ArtsHalifax to become. Describe why that recommended option is best model for ArtsHalifax.

ACTION: Add Peggy Walt’s document to Slack. Use their library sections as start of governance section.

Staff will be writing a background section to report as well.

ACTION: All Committee members are to review Slack documents and add comments to documents before next meeting scheduled September 7, 2017.

ACTION: The final report will be submitted to staff by the end of September 2017, as September 15 is drawing near and there remains a lot of work to be completed.

9. ADDED ITEMS

9.1 BACKGROUND OF NEW MEMBERS REQUESTED TO SHARE WITH COMMITTEE

There was not sufficient time left in the meeting to discuss.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, September 7, 2017, 3-5pm, Location: Dartmouth Ferry Terminal Boardroom – 3rd Floor, 88 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:06pm.

Shari Dillman
Administrative Support, Culture Events