



**COMMUNITY DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
October 25, 2017**

PRESENT: Fred Morley, Chair
Dale Godsoe
William Book
Eric Burchill
Jenna Khoury-Hanna
Christopher Daly
Rima Thomeh
Reg Manzer
Councillor Sam Austin
Councillor Waye Mason
Councillor Shawn Cleary
Councillor Richard Zurawski
Councillor Lindell Smith

REGRETS: Gaynor Watson-Creed, Vice Chair

STAFF: Kelly Denty, Acting Director, Planning and Development
Jacob Ritchie, Manager, Urban Design
Sherryl Murphy, Deputy Clerk
Sharon Chase, 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.

the meeting was called to order at 11:32 a.m. and adjourned at 12:51 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:32 p.m. in Halifax Hall, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 26, 2017

Two spelling corrections were identified.

MOVED by Reg Manzer, seconded by Councillor Richard Zurawski

THAT the minutes of April 26, 2017 be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED

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

The agenda was approved as presented.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

William Book has met with the Planning Department as suggested.

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS- NONE

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS- NONE

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

Correspondence received from Thea E. Smith, dated October 4, 2017 was distributed to the Committee.

8. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

8.1 Staff Presentation: Update on Centre Plan Process

Jacob Ritchie, Manager of Urban Design, presented a Centre Plan Update to the Committee. The Community Design Advisory Committee's (CDAC) detailed feedback and motions are all being addressed and worked into the next version of the plan. The Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee (CPED) and Regional Council's feedback have also been considered. They reviewed how Package A and Package B would be brought forward and what would be included in each. Jacob Ritchie then shared the work presently being done. This work is helping to inform priorities plans such as the Green Network Plan and Integrated Mobility. Drafts of the new Regional Centre's Secondary Municipal Planning Strategy (SMPS) and Land Use Bylaws (LUB) will be of particular interest to the Committee. They presented a flowchart to illustrate how Package A will be reviewed noting that edits to the plan can happen at each step. Staff have been working on step 1, drafting SMPS and LUB since July. The goal is to conduct a holistic and robust planning review and then bring the work to other business units. CDAC will be a part of the public review followed by small format reviews focusing on important stakeholders and then public meetings. Finally it will move through the approvals pipeline. A key milestone will be to bring draft Package A to CDAC in February 2018. Jacob Ritchie concluded by reviewing other work taking place in Planning and Development.

The Committee asked if there were timelines for the completion of the plan. Jacob Ritchie advised that there were many steps that can affect the finish line but that staff and resources have been committed to

focus on the completion of the Centre Plan. Tight deadlines will be established along with a sunset clause to ensure it is clear that new regulations will come into effect at a specific date. The Committee discussed the 20 planning applications in the Centre that are moving forward as directed by Council. It was noted that these cases are being brought to Halifax Peninsula Planning Advisory Committee who have been able provided detailed input, giving an opportunity to test the Centre Plan direction on actual developments. It was confirmed that there is no moratorium on development while the Centre Plan is being finalized. The Committee asked whether Centre Plan guidelines would apply to other parts of the Municipality. The research gathered during the Centre Plan process can be used to inform decisions and may be tested against current regulations. The goal of the plan is to allow better development to happen. It was agreed that the downtown plans and heritage plans have been in review for a long time and need to come forward soon. Public engagement should be timely and planned well in advance so it can be executed quickly. The 2015 engagement strategy worked well and is being used at this time. It was also suggested that the concepts of form and FAR should already be tested and detailed in advance of consultation with stakeholders. Jacob Ritchie stated that staff is working to ensure a complete package can be shown to the development community.

The Committee discussed their role and mandate, particularly in advising on the communications strategy. It was suggested that due to the long gap in active involvement it will be necessary to be brought back into the process with a general review or briefing in order to be well informed and confident in advising on the Centre Plan. CDAC had flagged some things for review: consultation, FAR and heritage protection; and would like an update on what recommendations are being addressed and included or rejected and why. A public meeting on FAR has been held and the Committee asked if the feedback received at that meeting could be shared here as well. A discussion on how the Centre Plan would impact suburban districts, for example the transportation plan, would be beneficial. It was suggested that a map indicating the areas affected by both Package A and Package B would be useful for reference and clarification; it should be posted on the Centre Plan website. Jacob Ritchie noted that as it is drafted both packages are addressed together but they become broken out during the approval processes, clarifying the information for the public and approvals. Both will flow one after the other in order to stay focused and on task.

The Chair thanked Jacob Ritchie for the presentation and noted that it generated a good conversation and provided a refresher for everyone.

8.2 Meeting Schedule for 2018

MOVED by Councillor Shawn Cleary, seconded by Councillor Wayne Mason

THAT the meeting schedule for 2018 be accepted as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday November 22, 2017

A meeting is also confirmed for Wednesday December 13, 2017

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:51 p.m.

INFORMATION ITEMS- NONE

Sharon Chase
Legislative Support