



**POINT PLEASANT PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
September 6, 2018**

PRESENT: Colleen Paschal, Acting Chair
Ian Austen
Denton Froese
John Price
Susan Summerby-Murray
Krista Daley
Deputy Mayor Wayne Mason

REGRETS: Michael Gerrior
Stephanie Gustys

STAFF: Stephen Rice, Supervisor Major Parks West
Sharon Chase, Legislative Assistant, Office of the Municipal Clerk

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 at Halifax.ca

The meeting was called to order at 4:33 p.m. and the Committee adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:33 pm at Halifax Hall 2nd floor, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 3, 2018

MOVED by Susan Summerby-Murray, seconded by John Price

THAT the minutes of May 3, 2018 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

MOVED by Ian Austen, seconded by Krista Daley

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

The Sable Island Institute has reached out to the Committee and would like to invite members to visit the Institute for a tour. The Legislative Assistant will contact the Institute and follow up with the Committee.

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 received from Gail Lonergan dated July 18, 2018

The Committee noted that a tender had gone out for an operator of the canteen for the last three years with no response. Stephen Rice, Supervisor Major Parks, confirmed that Point Pleasant Park was added as a location covered by By-law C-501 Respecting Vending on Municipal Lands, which would permit food trucks at the Park. Tenders will go out again this winter.

The Committee requested that the Legislative Assistant respond thanking them for their email and to share this information regarding food vendors.

7.1.2 received from Lacey Wilson dated August 15, 2018

The Committee discussed the idea of a fenced-in dog area in the Park. They considered that there was presently an extensive off leash area which provided a good balance for all park users. There is not really an appropriate place in the park for a fenced in area, in keeping with the direction of the Park's Master Plan.

The Committee requested that the Legislative Assistant respond thanking them for their email and to forward this correspondence to Parks and Recreation for their reference.

7.1.3 received from Len Canfield dated August 22, 2018

The Committee requested that the Legislative Assistant respond thanking Canfield for providing a copy of the article from the Trident News. The Legislative Assistant will inquire about having a link to this article placed on the Committee or Park web page for others to reference.

Chair Colleen Paschal had been approached by the Halifax Port Authority who are interested in coming to a Committee meeting to make a presentation regarding the new project taking place at the terminal. They have identified the Committee and Park as Community stakeholders and would value the Committee's feedback. This presentation will be scheduled for the November meeting.

7.2 Petitions- None

7.3 Presentations- None

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD - NONE

9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Operations Update

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff memorandum dated September 6, 2018

Stephen Rice, Supervisor Major Parks West, provided an update highlighting: painting, repairs and invasive plant removal. New wooden site tour markers will be installed this fall. Rice noted that the lower parking lot project was nearing completion with finishing touches happening today and trees being planted tomorrow.

Rice reported that there was a fire in the Park today at the back of Fort Ogilvie. They thanked Halifax Fire for the very quick response time. The Committee discussed the vulnerability of the Park to the careless actions of park users and the challenges of enforcing no smoking in the Park. Rice explained that the existing fire hydrants were not properly installed and are non-functioning. Rice noted that there is only one waterline in the Park. The Committee agreed it would be worthwhile to have an Emergency Preparedness discussion and perhaps invite the Fire Marshall to speak to the Committee.

Rice also provided an update on the Forestry Management Plan. This ten-year plan will include 30 hectares of tree thinning, beginning with 10 hectares being thinned next spring. The plan will be brought to the Committee for discussion and input as it is further developed; potentially in November or January.

The Committee asked for an update on the Parks and Recreation Washroom Strategy, noting that public washrooms is an issue at Point Pleasant Park. Staff will follow-up and report back to the Committee.

The Committee re-iterated their support for the Operation's work being done and offered further assistance wherever possible. Some specific repairs were noted and Rice reminded members to use 311 as a tool for reporting concerns immediately.

9.1.2 Committee Appointments

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff memorandum dated September 6, 2018

The Legislative Assistant reviewed the status of Committee member's terms, noting that there are also two vacancies on the Committee to be filled. The process for applying to renew appointments was reviewed with the deadline to apply being October 21, 2018.

9.1.3 Committee Work Planning Process

The Committee endorsed the idea of a work planning exercise in addition to the submission of their recommendation report requesting a formal Point Pleasant Park Operations Plan be prepared. Both things were felt to be important and necessary to the work of the Committee. The Legislative Assistant will move forward with tabling the report.

Discussion focused on the direction given in the Committee's Terms of Reference and how and when the Committee is consulted and able to offer advice. The flow of information and flow of decision making was reviewed including the roles of Staff, the Committee, Community Council and Regional Council. The importance of aligning current wants, needs and uses of the Park along with the Comprehensive Plan was noted.

The Committee discussed the best way to approach this exercise. A review and analysis of the Terms of Reference as it relates to the Comprehensive Plan and the 2016 update can be the starting point. The frequency of meetings can also be discussed. The Committee considered going through this separately before engaging staff to discuss specific projects and priority areas. This would ensure that the Committee felt prepared and ready to work with staff and make an effective use of everyone's time. The Legislative Assistant will arrange for this workshop to take place in November.

9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Committee briefly discussed the use of metal detectors in the Park and asked if there was a policy or regulation around their use. Staff will follow-up.

The Committee would like the Clerk's Office to provide regular updates on the progress of any motions originating from the Committee.

10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Thursday, November 1, 2018 at 4:30pm, at Halifax Hall 2nd floor, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Sharon Chase
Legislative Assistant