



**COMMUNITY PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
April 5, 2017**

PRESENT: Councillor Waye Mason, Chair
Councillor Sam Austin, Vice-Chair
Mayor Mike Savage
Deputy Mayor Steve Craig
Councillor David Hendsbee
Councillor Lindell Smith
Councillor Tim Outhit

GUESTS: Councillor Bill Karsten
Councillor Lorelei Nicoll

STAFF: Brad Anguish, Director of Parks & Recreation
Karen MacDonald, Solicitor
Liam MacSween, Legislative Assistant

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: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/SCcped/170405cped-agenda.php>

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. and adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Mason, Chair called the meeting to order in Council Chamber, 3rd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NONE

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

Additions: None

Councillor Mason suggested that the Item No. 17 – Public Participation be moved up on the agenda to take place after the staff presentation for Item No. 8.1.1 – Halifax Green Network Plan – Planning & Implementation Directions.

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Craig

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

Two-Third Majority Vote Required.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – March 23, 2017

8.1 Halifax Green Network Plan - Planning & Implementation Directions

The following was before the committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated February 2, 2017
- Correspondence from Jenny Lugar, Coordinator Our HRM Alliance dated April 4, 2017.

Holly Richardson, Acting Manger, Energy and Environment provided a presentation on the Halifax Green Network Plan – Planning & Implementation Directions. Councillor Mason thanked Holly Richardson for her presentation and invited members of the public to address the Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee.

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Jenny Lugar, of the Ecology Action Centre and Our HRM Alliance commented that staff and the consultants did a very good job on the Halifax Green Network Plan primer documents and noted that there is no shortage of highly valuable data. Lugar noted that as a planning professional, the primer document is difficult to understand and therefore would be difficult to communicate to the public. Lugar provided commentary with respect to the economic benefits of green belting and concluded by stating that the plan should be paired down so that the information presented within it, is clear and easily understandable.

Tristen Cleveland, of Halifax expressed excitement for the Green Network plan coming forward and applauded that amount of data and knowledge that is evident within the primer document. Cleveland advised that the plan will provide staff and the community with the knowledge to ensure that development is not overlapping with environmentally protected areas and directed to where growth is needed. Cleveland concluded by noting that a decisive finalized version of the plan is required to communicate it to the public.

Wendy MacDonald, of Clayton Park, commented that the next phase of the plan will be greatly welcomed and that the community consultation component should acknowledge the input and support of community volunteers. MacDonald advised that more attention needs to be placed by city planners with respect to active transportation, recreation and mobility.

Councillor Mason called three times for further speakers to address the Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee. There were no speakers present.

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Deputy Mayor Craig

THAT the Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council direct that staff use the Halifax Green Network Plan Primer December 2016, attached as Attachment A of the staff report dated February 2, 2017, as the framework for the final phase of public engagement, and for the development of the full consolidated Halifax Green Network Plan, and that staff return to Council for its consideration of the resulting Plan

In response to questions of clarification from members of the Standing Committee, Bob Bjerke, Director of Planning & Development noted the following:

- The intent of the background research contained within the primer document is to discuss and support the objectives needed to achieve the goals put forward in the plan.
- Staff appreciates that there is a fair amount of detail within the documentation as it currently exists and that it will need to put it in a different format when the final draft is ready to present to the public to effectively communicate the policy implications.

In response to questions from members of the Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee, Holly Richardson noted the following:

- The Green Network Plan is essentially a rebrand of the Green-Belting Priorities Plan found within the Regional Plan.
- Staff is actively collaborating with the Integrated Mobility Plan team around the idea of complete streets and a connected greenway system.
- There are a great deal of planning initiatives being developed by staff that support and reinforce each other, such as the Centre Plan, Integrated Mobility Plan, and Green Network Plan.

In response to follow up questions from members of the Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee, Bob Bjerke noted that staff will look at potential land acquisitions and disposals if warranted. Bjerke noted that the Green Network Plan is a strategic framework, and it is important that it remain in scope. Bjerke further noted that as staff gains feedback from stakeholders and the public, a finalized document that is clear and strait forward in its decision making approach will be presented to Halifax Regional Council for approval.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

10.1 Correspondence

10.1.1 Correspondence from Derek Martin, President Sports & Entertainment Atlantic - "Pop-Up" Stadium at the Wanderers Grounds

The following was before the committee:

- Correspondence from Derek Martin, President Sports & Entertainment Atlantic - "Pop-Up" Stadium at the Wanderers Grounds dated March 24, 2017

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Mayor Savage

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee request a staff report into the feasibility of permitting a pop-up stadium on the Wanderer's Grounds as proposed in the March 24, 2017 letter from Sports Entertainment Atlantic.

In response to a question of clarification, Brad Anguish, Director of Parks and Recreation noted that the requested report can address whether or not alcohol will be served on site.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.2 Petitions – NONE

10.3 Presentation – NONE

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

12. REPORTS

12.1 STAFF

12.1.1 HRM Anti-Poverty Strategy

The following was before the committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated March 28, 2017

MOVED by Mayor Savage, seconded by Deputy Mayor Craig

THAT the Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee recommends that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Collaborate with United Way Halifax and other partners on the development of an Anti-Poverty Strategy for the municipality and**
- 2. Initially make up to \$20,000 of in-kind support available to develop the strategy**
- 3. Consider additional involvement in activities designed to reduce poverty based on the report arising from the consultations to be launched by the United Way**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.1.2 Provincial Office of the Ombudsman

The following was before the committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated January 30, 2017

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Mayor Savage

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee forward this report to Regional Council for information purposes.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

- 13. MOTIONS – NONE**
- 14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE**
- 15. ADDED ITEMS**
- 16. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE**
- 17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

This matter was dealt with earlier in the meeting. Please refer to pages 2-3.

- 18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – April 20, 2017**
- 19. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Liam MacSween
Legislative Assistant