



**COMMUNITY PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
January 18, 2018**

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

REGRETS:

STAFF: Brad Anguish, Director of Parks and Recreation
Donna Boutilier, Solicitor
Liam MacSween, Legislative Assistant

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

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, information items circulated, and video (if available) are online at halifax.ca.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 4 (Special Meeting) and December 14, 2017

Liam MacSween, Legislative Assistant noted a correction to the December 14, 2017 minutes advising that Councillor Outhit was present.

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Smith.

THAT the minutes of December 4 (Special Meeting) and December 14, 2017 be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

15.1 Potential Support for Battle of the Atlantic Place

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Craig

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

Two-third majority vote required.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

10.1 Correspondence – NONE

10.2 Petitions – NONE

10.3 Presentation

10.3.1 Jordi Morgan, Chair, Advisory Panel for the Regulatory Modernization Project – Taking Action to Reduce Regulatory Burden and Red Tape for Business

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff presentation dated January 18, 2018

Jordi Morgan, Chair, Advisory Panel for the Regulatory Modernization project provided a presentation on Actions to Reduce Regulatory Burden and Red Tape for Business.

In response to questions of clarification, Jordi Morgan noted the following:

- All levels of government have a vested interest in measuring the cost of regulation on business to address policy objectives.
- Customer service should be a priority, on the part of government, as overly complex processes to obtain permits and licenses can be obstacles.

10.3.2 Jeff Blair, Space and Facility Needs for bringing Ultimate Frisbee Events to the Halifax Regional Municipality

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A handout entitled ““We can’t host anything here”: Space and facility needs for bringing regional and national ultimate (aka. Ultimate Frisbee) events to Halifax.
- A presentation dated January 18, 2018.

Jeff Blair provided a presentation on Space and Facility needs for Ultimate Frisbee Events in HRM. communicate what the space and facility needs are to bring an event to Halifax.

In response to questions of clarification, Jeff Blair noted the following:

- An Ultimate Frisbee Field could fit well in the Centre of the Halifax Commons.
- There are several recreation fields across HRM that can be adapted to host Ultimate Frisbee events in HRM.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

12. REPORTS

12.1 STAFF

12.1.1 ArtsHalifax Advisory Committee Recommendations - Successor Committee & Awards Program

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated December 4, 2017

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Smith

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Consider the inclusion of up to \$500,000 in the Parks & Recreation 2018-19 operating budget process for the Grants to Professional Arts Organizations Program;**
- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare amendments to Administrative Order 2014-007-ADM, the Grants to Professional Arts Organizations Program, prior to the call for applicants for the 2018-19 fiscal year and return to Council for approval, as follows:**
 - a. delegate the approval of grant awards to the Chief Administrative Officer;**
 - b. revise the process for selecting a peer jury to be a procurement to permit payment for the services of the peer jurists; and**
 - c. amend the financial levels of the professional arts grants;**

- 3. Request legislative amendments to the *HRM Charter* to allow the Municipality to incorporate a society under the *Societies Act* in order to advance the governance and operational model described as 'Option C'- External Board, Structured as Arm's Length Body; and**
- 4. Repeal Administrative Order 2014-019-GOV.**

In response to questions of clarification, Denise Schofield, Manager of Program Support Services and Elizabeth Taylor, Manager of Culture and Events clarified the following:

- The time commitment to review grant awards (30 to 40 submissions) is typically in the three to five-day range.
- Remuneration is recommended for jury members as there are a small pool of qualified artists who are eligible to serve as jurors.
- The legislative amendments required by the Province to allow for an Arms Length agencies.
- The proposed reporting relationship with Halifax Regional Council.

The following amendment was proposed:

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional schedule a Committee of the Whole to discuss this matter.

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.

The motion now reads:

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Smith

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Consider the inclusion of up to \$500,000 in the Parks & Recreation 2018-19 operating budget process for the Grants to Professional Arts Organizations Program;**
- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare amendments to Administrative Order 2014-007-ADM, the Grants to Professional Arts Organizations Program, prior to the call for applicants for the 2018-19 fiscal year and return to Council for approval, as follows:**
 - a. delegate the approval of grant awards to the Chief Administrative Officer;**
 - b. revise the process for selecting a peer jury to be a procurement to permit payment for the services of the peer jurors; and**
 - c. amend the financial levels of the professional arts grants;**
- 3. Request legislative amendments to the *HRM Charter* to allow the Municipality to incorporate a society under the *Societies Act* in order to advance the governance and operational model described as 'Option C'- External Board, Structured as Arm's Length Body; and**
- 4. Repeal Administrative Order 2014-019-GOV.**
- 5. Schedule a Committee of the Whole to discuss this matter.**

AMENDED MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 COMMUNITY DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NONE

12.3 HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NONE

12.3 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE

Councillor Austin assumed the position of Chair.

13. MOTIONS

13.1 Deputy Mayor Mason

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Mason, seconded by Councillor Smith

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report to assess options for requesting the transfer of the responsibility to operate and deliver housing programs and services within the boundaries of Halifax on behalf of the Province, including but not limited to the following considerations:

- 1. Transferring of the responsibilities of Housing Nova Scotia in the Halifax region, including Metro Regional Housing Authority (MRHA) to the municipality;**
- 2. Fund this transfer through property tax, by redirecting property tax points from the mandatory education funding collected by the municipality for the province, to ensure the core housing program operations would be funded by property tax revenue, rather than provincial grants;**
- 3. Require provincial participation and cost sharing in Federal housing and regionally significant housing programs with equitable distribution of funds based on population;**
- 4. Discuss the housing allowance paid to clients living in MRHA is the same as the program provides to other private and not for profit land lords.**
- 5. Make recommendations regarding management structure as either an arms length agency, a department of the municipality, or combination of options.**

The following amendments were proposed by Deputy Mayor Mason:

THAT recommendation three be amended to read “Develop an approach for provincial participation and cost sharing in Federal housing and regionally significant housing programs with equitable distribution of funds based on population” and;

That recommendation four be amended to read “Discuss the housing allowance paid to clients living in MRHA becoming the same as the program provided to other private and not for profit land lords”.

The proposed amendments were deemed friendly. The motion before the Committee now reads:

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Mason, seconded by Councillor Smith

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report to assess options for requesting the transfer of the responsibility to operate and deliver housing programs and services within the boundaries of Halifax on behalf of the Province, including but not limited to the following considerations:

- 1. Transferring of the responsibilities of Housing Nova Scotia in the Halifax region, including Metro Regional Housing Authority (MRHA), to the Municipality;**
- 2. Fund this transfer through property tax, by redirecting property tax points from the mandatory education and social housing funding collected by the municipality for the province, to ensure the core housing program operations would be funded by property tax revenue, rather than provincial grants;**
- 3. Develop an approach for provincial participation and cost sharing in Federal housing and regionally significant housing programs with equitable distribution of funds based on population;**
- 4. Discuss the housing allowance paid to clients living in MRHA becoming the same as the program provided to other private and not for profit land lords.**
- 5. Make recommendations regarding management structure as either an arms length agency, a department of the Municipality, or combination of options.**

Councillor Hendsbee proposed the following amendment:

THAT recommendation one be amended to include the Preston Area Housing Fund and other Not-for-Profits.

The proposed amendment was deemed friendly. The motion before the Committee now reads:

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Mason, seconded by Councillor Smith

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report to assess options for requesting the transfer of the responsibility to operate and deliver housing programs and services within the boundaries of Halifax on behalf of the Province, including but not limited to the following considerations:

- 1. Transferring of the responsibilities of Housing Nova Scotia in the Halifax region, including Metro Regional Housing Authority (MRHA), Preston Area Housing Fund and other Not-for-Profits to the Municipality;**
- 2. Fund this transfer through property tax, by redirecting property tax points from the mandatory education and social housing funding collected by the municipality for the province, to ensure the core housing program operations would be funded by property tax revenue, rather than provincial grants;**
- 3. Develop an approach for provincial participation and cost sharing in Federal housing and regionally significant housing programs with equitable distribution of funds based on population;**
- 4. Discuss the housing allowance paid to clients living in MRHA becoming the same as the program provided to other private and not for profit land lords.**
- 5. Make recommendations regarding management structure as either an arms length agency, a department of the Municipality, or combination of options.**

AMENDED MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Deputy Mayor Mason resumed as Chair.

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE

15. ADDED ITEMS

15.1 Potential Support for Battle of the Atlantic Place

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Craig

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee defer consideration of the December 8, 2017 staff report to the February 15, 2018 meeting.

MOTION TO DEFER PUT AND PASSED.

16. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Deputy Mayor Mason called three times for members of the public to address the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee. There were no speakers present.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – February 15, 2018 – Council Chamber, 3rd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

Liam MacSween
Legislative Assistant