



**ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
April 4, 2019**

PRESENT: Councillor Richard Zurawski, Chair
Councillor Shawn Cleary, Vice-Chair
Councillor David Hendsbee
Councillor Steve Streach
Councillor Lisa Blackburn

REGRETS: Deputy Mayor Tony Mancini

STAFF: Kelly Denty, Director, Planning & Development
Joshua Judah Q.C., Solicitor
Meg MacDougall, Solicitor
David Perusse, 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 1:02 p.m. and adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m., in Council Chamber, 3rd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 7, 2019

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT the minutes of March 7, 2019 be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Blackburn

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

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 - NONE

9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

10.1 Correspondence

The Legislative Assistant noted that the Municipal Clerk's Office received correspondence relating to item 12.1.1, which was circulated to members of the Standing Committee.

For a detailed list of the correspondence received, refer to the specific item.

10.2 Petitions - None

10.3 Presentations

10.3.1 Passive Home Building Standards - Lorrie Rand, Habit Studio

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A presentation request dated March 4, 2019
- A presentation on Passive House Building Standards

Lorrie Rand, Habit Studio, provided the Standing Committee with a presentation on Passive House Buildings Standards and how they can be used as an effective means to decarbonize buildings. The

presentation outlined examples from other jurisdictions of how Passive House standards have successfully reduced green house gas emissions. Rand requested that the Standing Committee consider exploring how Passive House Building Standards could inform HRM in its efforts to reduce the Municipality's carbon footprint.

Responding to questions from members of the Standing Committee, Rand noted that on average, houses in Nova Scotia are responsible for a larger percentage of total emissions than in other jurisdictions in Canada, with one reason being the Province's ageing building stock. Rand further noted that Passive Houses are generally equipt for all climates. They added that many new developments are using this building standard as a result of the economic incentives resulting from greater efficiency.

The Chair thanked Rand for the presentation.

10.3.2 Zero Carbon Emissions Building Standards - Lara Ryan, Canada Green Building Council

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A presentation request dated March 20, 2019
- A presentation titled "Green Buildings – A Climate Change Solution"

Lara Ryan, Canada Green Building Council, provided the Standing Committee with a presentation on LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver or Zero Carbon Emissions Building Standards for new developments. Ryan noted that buildings are one of the largest emitters of green house gases in Canada, further noting that creating greater building efficiencies is one of the easiest and most effective means by which the Municipality can work towards meeting its emissions reduction targets.

Ryan explained that LEED is a voluntary building certification standard developed to encourage the adoption of green building standards in the construction industry. They further outlined how retrofits can be an effective means to work towards obtaining this green standard.

The Chair thanked Ryan for the presentation.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD - NONE

12. REPORTS

12.1 STAFF

12.1.1 Regional Watersheds Advisory Board - Advertised Skillset

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated March 25, 2019
- Correspondence submitted by Rose Featherstone, dated April 3, 2019

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Blackburn

THAT Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee direct the Municipal Clerk to advertise for Regional Watersheds Advisory Board members, including the preferred skillset as outlined in the discussion section of the report dated March 25, 2019.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE - NONE

12.3 BOARDS AND COMMITTEES - NONE

13. MOTIONS

Councillor Cleary took the Chair at 2:06 p.m.

13.1 Councillor Zurawski - Reducing Emissions in New and Existing Buildings in HRM

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A Request for Consideration form dated April 4, 2019

MOVED by Councillor Zurawski, seconded by Councillor Blackburn

THAT the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee request a staff report to determine opportunities to reduce carbon emissions in new and existing buildings – this is to include HRM corporate buildings as well as the built environment.

Councillor Zurawski spoke to the Standing Committee about the motion. Citing the presentations provided by Lorrie Rand and Lara Ryan regarding the benefits of adopting and incentivising green building standards, Zurawski noted that a further examination by staff would be prudent.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Zurawski retook the Chair at 2:12 p.m.

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) - NONE

15. ADDED ITEMS - NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair called three (3) times for any member of the public wishing to come forward to address the Standing Committee. There being none, Public Participation was closed.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – May 2, 2019

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

David Perusse
Legislative Assistant