HALIFAX

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
February 17, 2026

PRESENT:	Councillor Janet Steele, Chair Councillor Jean St-Amand, Vice Chair Deputy Mayor Patty Cuttell Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon Councillor Becky Kent Councillor Trish Purdy
OTHERS PRESENT:	Councillor Tony Mancini Councillor Laura White Councillor Virginia Hinch Councillor John Young
STAFF:	Maggie MacDonald, Executive Director Parks & Recreation William Hatfield, Solicitor Elizabeth Macdonald, 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.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people. The Chair led the Committee in the African Nova Scotian Affirmation.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 22, 2026

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Councillor St-Amand

THAT the minutes of January 22, 2026 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Later in the meeting, as provided for in section 37 (1) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, Councillor Deagle Gammon requested that Item 13.1.2 – Terms of Reference for a new Parks Advisory Committee be considered following Item 15.1 PERSONNEL MATTER.

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 - None
10.2 Petitions – None

10.3 Presentation
10.3.1 Wije'winen Centre Project Funding Request

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Presentation request dated January 7, 2026
- Presentation dated February 17, 2026

Pamela Glode Desrochers, Executive Director, Mi’kmaw Native Friendship Center and Tom McGuire, Mi’kmaw Native Friendship Center gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

10.3.2 Engage Nova Scotia Quality of Life Data Update

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Presentation request dated February 10, 2026
- Presentation dated February 17, 2026

Danny Graham, Chief Engagement Officer, Engage Nova Scotia gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair noted there were no registered speakers and called three times for any other members of the public wishing to speak; there were none.

12. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

13. REPORTS
13.1 STAFF
13.1.1 Update – People. Planet, Prosperity: Halifax's Inclusive Economic Strategy

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated February 12, 2026
- Presentation dated February 17, 2026
- Handout dated February 17, 2026

Wendy Luther, President & Chief Executive Officer, Halifax Partnership and Ian Munro, Chief Economist, Halifax Partnership gave a presentation.

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Councillor St-Amand

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee receive a presentation from the Halifax Partnership regarding People. Planet. Prosperity: Halifax's Inclusive Economic Strategy and forward the staff report dated February 12, 2026 and the accompanying presentation from the Halifax Partnership to Halifax Regional Council for information.

Luther responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

As set out in section 34 of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, a motion was required to extend the time of the meeting.

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Deputy Mayor Cuttell

THAT Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee extend the time of the meeting past 12:00 p.m.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.1.2 Terms of Reference for a new Parks Advisory Committee

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated February 12, 2025
- Presentation dated February 17, 2026

Richard Harvey, Manager Policy & Planning gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend to Halifax Regional Council that the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee continue to serve as the municipality's advisory body on parks and recreation matters.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.1.3 Centre for Art Tapes Funding Request

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated February 13, 2026
- Presentation dated February 17, 2026

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor St-Amand

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

1. **Approve the provision of a one-time contribution totalling $225,000 to Centre for Art Tapes to be allocated toward the purchase of the property at 2199 Gottingen Street, Halifax, accommodated in Parks & Recreation's 2025-2026 operating budget; and,**

2. **Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, or their delegate, to negotiate and execute the Municipality's standard Contribution Agreement with Centre for Art Tapes, with terms and conditions acceptable to the Chief Administrative Officer.**

Kellie McIvor, Manager Culture & Community and Lindsay Cory, Community Developer, Public Arts gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

Maggie MacDonald, Executive Director Parks & Recreation responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee and clarified the contribution was part of the approved 2025/26 Municipal Budget.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14. MOTIONS – NONE

15. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)
15.1 PERSONNEL MATTER – Private and Confidential Report

This matter was dealt with in public as follows:

The following was before Community Council:

- Private and Confidential report dated February 11, 2026

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Councillor Deagle Gammon

THAT the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee:

1. **Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated February 11, 2026; and**

2. **Direct that the private and confidential report dated February 11, 2026 be maintained private and confidential.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

16. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

17. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – March 12, 2026

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

Elizabeth Macdonald
Legislative Assistant