



**ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
August 3, 2017**

PRESENT: Councillor Tony Mancini, Chair
Councillor Richard Zurawski, Vice Chair
Councillor Steve Streach
Councillor Shawn Cleary
Councillor Bill Karsten
Councillor Lisa Blackburn

OTHERS PRESENT: Councillor Lorelei Nicoll
Councillor Sam Austin

STAFF: Bob Bjerke, Director, Planning & Development
Benjamin Fairbanks, Solicitor, Legal Services
Jennifer Weagle, 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 1:01 p.m., and the Standing Committee adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 8, 2017

MOVED by Councillor Blackburn, seconded by Councillor Zurawski

THAT the minutes of June 8, 2017 be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

MOVED by Councillor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Streach

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 - None

10.2 Petitions - None

10.3 Presentation

10.3.1 Environmental Impacts and Remediation in Harrietsfield, Nova Scotia – *Marlene Brown & Kelly B. Schnare*

The following was before the Committee:

- Presentation entitled “The Contaminated Village of Harrietsfield” dated August 3, 2017
- Correspondence from Marlene Brown dated July 2, 2017

Marlene Brown presented to the Standing Committee on the topic of environmental impacts and remediation required for water contamination in Harrietsfield, Nova Scotia. The presentation is available on file and on line.

Councillors Nicoll and Austin joined the meeting at 11:12 p.m.

The Chair thanked Marlene Brown for the presentation.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD

11.1 Memorandum from the Director, Transportation and Public Works, dated April 4, 2017 re: Residential Component to the Urban Forest Master Plan (staff presentation)

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff information report dated April 4, 2017 re: Residential Component to the Urban Forest Master Plan
- Staff presentation dated August 3, 2017

John Simmons, Urban Forester, presented an overview of the residential component of the Urban Forest Master Plan – Priority 3: Citizen Stewardship. The presentation is available on file and online.

Councillor Cleary joined the meeting at 1:56 p.m.

Responding to questions and comments from the Committee, staff discussed how the urban canopy involves both private and public land, and the challenges involved in planting on private land. They indicated that this will involve educating residents, and information is being designed for residents.

12. REPORTS

12.1 STAFF

12.1.1 Memorandum from the Director and Chief Planner, Planning and Development, dated June 2, 2017 re: Reinstating Lake Monitoring and Sampling Program (staff presentation)

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff information report dated June 2, 2017 re: Reinstating Lake Monitoring and Sampling Program
- Staff presentation dated August 3, 2017

Holly Richardson, Acting Program Manager, Energy & Environment, presented an overview of the lake water monitoring and sampling program review.

In response to questions from members, Bob Bjerke, Director, Planning and Development, clarified that the lake monitoring and sampling program was discontinued in 2012 for budget reasons. The data was being collected but not used and the cost of collecting the data could not be justified.

Staff clarified that the review will look at and elevate policies in place, will look at studies already done, and consolidate policies. They indicated that the desire is to get the review to Council prior to the end of the fiscal year.

Staff were encouraged to look at the effect of invasive species on the health of lakes. Bob Bjerke noted that this involves cooperation with other levels of government. Staff were also encouraged to look at working with universities on this matter.

12.2 COMMITTEES – NONE

12.3 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE - NONE

13. MOTIONS

13.1 Councillor Blackburn – Subscription Only Flyer Delivery Service for HRM

The following was before the Committee:

- A Request for Committee's Consideration form from Councillor Blackburn

MOVED by Councillor Blackburn, seconded by Councillor Zurawski

THAT the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee request a staff report, with recommendations, on making the delivery of flyers in the Halifax Regional Municipality by subscription only, so that residents are required to opt-in to receive the service rather than the current model of having to opt-out if the service is unwanted.

Councillor Blackburn discussed the motion, noting that this matter has been discussed by the Committee before, although this motion takes a different approach by residents being required to opt-in to receive flyers.

It was noted that the definition of flyer should be clearly defined as other flyers come in the mail, including election material, separate from the bag of flyers delivered door to door. It was also noted that whether flyers could fall under the definition of litter should be explored.

Councillor Blackburn clarified that the intent of her motion is to focus on the marketing flyers contained in plastic bags that are delivered door to door.

MOVED by Councillor Blackburn, seconded by Councillor Cleary, that the motion be amended to read:

THAT the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee request a staff report, with recommendations, on making the delivery of marketing flyers contained in plastic bags in the Halifax Regional Municipality by subscription only, so that residents are required to opt-in to receive the service rather than the current model of having to opt-out if the service is unwanted.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) - NONE

15. ADDED ITEMS - NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

John Cascadden, Lewis Lake, Chair of the Community Monitoring Committee for the Otter Lake Waste Processing and Disposal facility, addressed the Committee, discussing the Harrietsfield water contamination issue. The speaker suggested that when an industrial operation is located in a community, the company should be required to participate in a community monitoring committee, and further suggested that the Municipality should clean up the contamination and bill the owners of the company.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – September 7, 2017

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

Jennifer Weagle
Legislative Assistant