

**HALIFAX**

# **Western Common Advisory Committee**

Orientation

January 24, 2018

# Overview

- Call to Order
- Role of Advisory Board and Committees
- Terms of Reference
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- Role of Chair
- Meetings and Agenda
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- Questions

# Advisory Committee/Board Role

- Provide advice to Council, Community Council or staff on matters within the mandate of the committee
- Do not have final decision-making power and cannot provide direction to staff unless otherwise states in the Terms of Reference of the committee
- Mandate is contained in the Terms of Reference of the Committee.

# Terms of Reference

## Duties of the Committee

### Section 6

The Committee shall monitor the phased development of the Western Common and advise Council, through the Halifax and West Community Council, on the community perspective of the implementation of the Master Plan as follows:

- (a) the Committee shall advise Council on detailed planning and development of the Park; and

# Terms of Reference

## Duties of the Committee

### Section 6

(b) the Committee shall advise Council on environmental sustainability in the Park, including:

- (i) public access and wilderness recreation programming;
- (ii) impact of land uses, within and adjacent to the Western Common, on the Park;
- (iii) ecological diversity and connectivity;
- (iv) cultural landscapes; and
- (v) park operational matters

# Role of Chair

- The Chair is elected by the members of the committee
- The Chair is responsible to lead the meeting
  - Calls the meeting to order
  - Leads the Committee through the agenda
  - Seeks motions as appropriate
  - Ensures all members have an opportunity to have input in a respectful and appropriate manner
  - Directs the vote
  - Adjourns the meeting with a motion from the membership
  - Represents the Committee with Council (e.g. signs reports) and handles media inquiries with input from HRM Corporate Communications

# Agendas and Meetings

- Meetings of advisory Committees are held consistently with an annual schedule being approved
- All meetings of Council, Community Council and Boards and Committees is governed by Administrative Order 1, Respecting the Procedures of the Council  
<http://www.halifax.ca/legislation/adminorders/documents/AO01.pdf>
- The Legislative Assistant (LA) will provide advice and guidance on the application of Administrative Order 1, prepare the agenda and minutes, assist the Committee in drafting motions, and act as a liaison to maintain the link between the Committee and Council.

# Agendas and Meetings (cont'd)

- LA consults with the Chair and staff to develop the agenda
- Agenda is in a format consistent with Regional Council adapted for the specific Committee needs
- Members can add matters to the agenda that are within the mandate of the Committee by contacting the LA
- Three days prior to the meeting, a matter can be added as of right, after the LA has consulted with the Chair. Requests for late additions can be made up until noon the day before the meeting, and with approval from the Chair, be brought forward by the LA under Approval of the Order of Business and Approval of Additions and Deletions



# Agendas and Meetings (cont'd)

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

*Chair calls meeting to order when quorum is attained and as close to time noted on agenda as possible*

## 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Minutes of the previous meeting are approved. Motion to approve the minutes is put on the floor. Any corrections are moved as amendments and the motion is then approved.*

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

*The Legislative Assistant will announce proposed additions or deletions to the agenda. Members of the Committee can also add/delete matters to/from the agenda*

# Agendas and Meetings (cont'd)

## **4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

*This section is seldom used but applies to matters that have been recorded in a previous set of minutes about which a member or staff have a question or update*

## **5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

*At this time in the agenda, members shall declare any conflict of interest they might have related to the day's agenda. When the Committee considers the item, the member will take a seat away from the table and have no further input to the matter.*

## **6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS**

*The Committee will consider any matter which has been deferred from a previous meeting.*

# Agendas and Meetings (cont'd)

## **8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD**

*This section includes information reports that a member has requested come forward from a previous agenda. The request is made during the approval of the order of business for the next meeting of the Committee.*

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

### **7.1 Correspondence**

*Correspondence which has been received from members of the public is received and discussed*

### **7.2 Petitions**

*Members of the public may submit a petition through a member of the Committee or the Legislative Assistant*

### **7.3 Presentations**

*The Committee may receive presentations from Community Groups. Requests to present must be made in writing to the Legislative Assistant for the Committee*

# Agendas and Meetings (cont'd)

## **9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

*This section includes reports prepared by staff on a variety of issues and contain a recommendation.*

*Recommendations will appear on the agenda (see 9.1.2)*

*Staff may give a presentation relating to the report.*

## **10. ADDED ITEMS**

*Items added to the agenda at the beginning of the meeting will be considered here.*

## **11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – (month, day, year)**

*As per the approved Committee schedule*

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

*Requires a mover only*

# Conflict of Interest

- The Municipal Conflict of Interest Act is the governing legislation for Council, Community Council and Boards and Committees
- The Act requires any member who has any ‘direct or indirect pecuniary (financial) interest’ in any matter before the Committee to:
  - Disclose the interest and general nature
  - Take a seat away from the table and refrain taking part in the consideration of the matter in any way before/after the matter is considered, debate at meeting or voting
  - Municipal Conflict of Interest Act  
<http://nslegislature.ca/legc/statutes/muncpcf.html>

# Diversity & Inclusion

- Diversity means understanding and utilizing different views, ideas, life experiences, skills and knowledge.
- An inclusive municipality is about community actions meant to eliminate barriers so all of its members can fully participate and contribute.
- Collectively, we have a responsibility to:
  - Acknowledge diversity as a strategic priority of HRM and demonstrate behaviours consistent with the HRM Diversity and Inclusion goals
  - Create and maintain an inclusive working environment that is free from discrimination and harassment
  - Be respectful of colleagues and citizens
- For more information visit <http://www.halifax.ca/diversity/>

# Member Conduct

- The Chair is the spokesperson for the Committee and will communicate only the recommendation of the Committee. Other Committee members may not represent the Committee or municipality in any capacity.
- A member who fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings without having been excused shall be deemed to have resigned from the Committee.
- Members of the public who are appointed to an Advisory Committee shall serve and be seen to serve in a conscientious and diligent manner that accommodates access to services by diverse communities and is respectful of difference and diversity.

