



**POINT PLEASANT PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
May 2, 2019**

PRESENT: Denton Froese, Chair
Susan Summerby-Murray, Vice Chair
Ian Austen
John Price
Brian MacDonald
Stephanie Gustys
Councillor Waye Mason

REGRETS: Colleen Paschal
Chidiebere Maduakolam
Daniel Flood
Kelsey Redding

STAFF: Carolle Koziak-Roberts, Landscape Architect, Parks and Recreation
Kelly McIvor, Cultural Asset Manager, Parks and Recreation
Sharon Chase, Legislative Support, Office of the Municipal Clerk

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

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at halifax.ca.

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m. and the Committee adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m. at Halifax Hall, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 7, 2019

MOVED by Susan Summerby-Murray, seconded by John Price

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

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Ian Austen

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

The Committee were updated on the status of the Point Coffee Shop proposal. Moving forward with the proposal was predicated on no interest or applications by individuals for a food truck license, under the current by-law. An application has been received. It was felt that monitoring the area to ensure it was being serviced by this vendor would be important. Recommendations could be made to re-visit this site in future.

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS- NONE

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence

7.1.1 Correspondence was received from Donna Langille, dated April 13, 2019.

The Committee asked that the Legislative Assistant reply and let them know that the donation program for park benches is being reviewed.

7.1.2 Correspondence was received from William Breckenridge, dated April 15, 2019.

The Committee asked that the Legislative Assistant reply, noting that the condition of Point Pleasant Park Battery was addressed in discussions under agenda item 9.1.2.

7.1.3 Correspondence was received from Tom Tulloch, dated April 25, 2019.

The Committee looked at the issue of overgrowth at the Northwest Arm Battery. They requested that this correspondence be forwarded by the Legislative Assistant to Alana Tapper, Superintendent for Parks West and that staff provide an update at the next meeting.

7.1.4 Correspondence was received from David Gough, dated April 26, 2019.

The Committee discussed holding a Shilling Ceremony. Civic Events is available to assist with some of the logistics with the Committee organizing the event details. Brian MacDonald and Denton Froese have volunteered to meet with Mike Gillett, Senior Events Coordinator. There is necessary lead time involved to ensure the attendance of the Lt. Governor and other VIP's. The Committee briefly discussed the opportunity to tie the Shilling Ceremony into a larger event helping to promote the Park. Some ideas suggested include: a park clean-up, working with another park partner for example Parks Canada or Sable Island Institute. The Committee asked that the Legislative Assistant arrange a planning meeting with staff and follow-up with David Gough letting them know it is being looked at.

7.2 Petitions - None

7.3 Presentation - None

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Operations Update

Steven Rice was unable to attend but provided an Operations Update which was shared with the Committee:

- We will have the first look at the Parks app for the next meeting. Will circulate/present for committee comments.
- Forestry work plan still in development, however an initial project of stand thinning will be going ahead this summer. Should be happening around the time of the next meeting so we can cover it in more detail then. In short, we will be thinning approximately 10 hectares in the north-eastern section of the park surrounding Birch and Pine roads. This will reduce competition and allow for more open grown, wind-firm trees. We will also be culling out invasive species at the same time. A public service announcement will also go out from corporate communications prior to any work commencement.

The Committee would like to see some detail on the Forestry Work Plan at a future meeting. Councillor Mason will follow-up with Parks and Recreation on the status of the Park's Operations Plan, which was requested from a motion of Halifax and West Community Council late last year.

9.1.2 Staff Update on the Entombment and Protection of Military Installations and other Historic Structures

Kelly McIvor, Cultural Asset Manager, shared that as a starting point they hoped to gather notes on the Committee's discussion around the Park's Historic Structures. The intent is to take this back to staff who can then find the answers to questions and appropriate information to bring back to the Committee for further discussion.

It was acknowledged that Point Pleasant Park Battery was in a state of disrepair. This battery was looked at by CPED and Regional Council in 2013 along with a discussion regarding the armouring of the harbourside. It was suggested that Richard Harvey, Manager Polices and Planning Parks and Recreation, could provide the Committee with any relevant policy history and the status on this and as well the other park structures. The option of entombment may not be a practical solution given water erosion and flood plain location. The Committee suggested that the fence could be repaired immediately to ensure safety of the site while a longer-term solution is sought.

The Committee noted that there is a distinction between maintaining and restoring a structure. Clarification on the ownership of the historical structures in the Park would be helpful. Partnership with

Parks Canada may be required on any restoration. The Committee suggested that the structures be inventoried and ranked to help prioritize any future work or restoration efforts. A suggestion was to identify the best example for each historical period and preserve these, with a focus on the 1700 and 1800's. When considering investing in these structures three key areas of focus to note are: safety, preserving what is historically relevant and improving the tourist experience. This priorities list and any conservation plan could be incorporated in Parks and Recreation's business plan. It was understood that a restoration project took place in 2012; the Committee asked if a staff presentation and update could come to the Committee. Finally, the Committee noted that the public would have an interest in any work done and that the Park's web site would be a tool for sharing these efforts.

9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Committee continued discussing the opportunity to host a family/community event and perhaps tie this into the Shilling Ceremony. It was mentioned that many citizens have fond memories of time spent in the Park and that promoting the sharing of these memories using social media could re-vitalize support of and use of the Park. This could also be incorporated with a launch of the Park App/web presence. It would require the assistance of Corporate Communications.

The Committee indicated that they would like to have staff come and provide an update on the larger Park Washroom Strategy and any information about Point Pleasant Park in particular.

10. ADDED ITEMS-NONE

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – June 20, 2019

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

Sharon Chase
Legislative Support