



**WESTERN COMMON ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
August 25, 2021**

PRESENT: Michael Lamplugh, Chair
Councillor Patty Cuttell
Jane Macneill
Hammad Mohiy Ud Din

REGRETS: Darrell Cooling, Vice Chair
Angela Murphy
Sumaiya Khan
Graham Read

STAFF: Gareth Evans, Recreation Planning Specialist, Policy and Planning
Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant

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 6:42 p.m., and the Committee adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m.

1.1 COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS – NONE

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 28, 2021

Hammad Mohiy Ud Din noted a correction that Sumaiya Khan was not present at the April 28, 2021 meeting.

MOVED by Hammad Mohiy Ud Din, seconded by Councillor Patty Cuttell

THAT the minutes of April 28, 2021 be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

MOVED by Hammad Mohiy Ud Din, seconded by Jane Macneill

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

6.1 Correspondence – None

6.2 Petitions – None

7. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

8. REPORTS

8.1 STAFF

8.1.1 Update – Committee Composition

Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant, Municipal Clerk's Office, noted that Halifax Regional Council passed a motion April 20, 2021 requesting a staff report on amending Administrative Order Number 2016-001-GOV, *Respecting the Advisory Committee on the Western Common* to include a representative from the Resource Opportunities Centre located in the Prospect Road Community Centre. The staff report to Regional Council was targeting Fall 2021. Vining would share a copy of the staff report with the Committee when it was available.

8.1.2 Discussion re: Trail Type

Gareth Evans, Recreation Planning Specialist, Policy and Planning, noted that Halifax Regional Council passed a motion June 8, 2021 requesting a staff report on proposed amendments to the Western Common Wilderness Common Master Plan to consider the implementation of natural surface backcountry trails within the interior areas of the Western Common. Evans explained that Figure 23 of the Master Plan calls for an extensive six (6) foot wide barrier free trail system and as discussed with the Committee and

Parks Capital, this would be highly disruptive to the natural surroundings. The intent is to be as inclusive and accessible in certain sections of the Western Common and have a two (2) foot wide trail system, a classic hiking trail, in other areas to respect the natural surrounds. Staff would be working with the Committee, the trail consultant and Parks Capital to determine a more integrated approach. Evans responded to questions from the Committee.

Evans would continue to update and consult with the Committee, outlining the Western Common Wilderness Common Master Plan phases, layout and areas of focus over the next year.

8.1.3 Update – 50 Best Family Friendly Hikes in HRM

Gareth Evans, Recreation Planning Specialist, Policy and Planning, noted that Michael Hines was writing a book on the 50 best family friendly hikes in the Municipality, noting their discussion with Hines on the Western Common as an up and coming trail system, and responded to questions from the Committee.

8.1.4 Update – Family Grave Sites within the Western Common

Gareth Evans, Recreation Planning Specialist, Policy and Planning, noted that in response to a question they had received from a resident, staff would ensure that trail planning within the Western Common Wilderness Common Master Plan would be mindful and respectful of culturally sensitive areas. Evans responded to questions from the Committee.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – November 24, 2021

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Krista Vining
Legislative Assistant