



**COMMUNITY PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
February 13, 2025**

PRESENT: Councillor Deagle Gammon, Chair
Councillor Janet Steele, Vice Chair
Councillor Becky Kent
Councillor Trish Purdy
Councillor Patty Cuttell
Councillor Jean St-Amand

OTHERS PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Tony Mancini
Councillor Laura White

STAFF: Maggie MacDonald, Executive Director of Parks and Recreation
William Hatfield, Solicitor
Simon Ross-Siegel, Legislative Assistant

These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee at a future meeting.

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.

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**CPED Standing Committee
Draft Minutes
February 13, 2025**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:03 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.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 16, 2025

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Cuttell

THAT the minutes of January 16, 2025 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

Deferred to the April 17, 2025 meeting of Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee:

- Item 10.3.2 – Nova Scotia Heritage Trust Proposal for Strengthening Built Heritage Protection

MOVED by Councillor Steele, seconded by Councillor St-Amand

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

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

Correspondence was received and circulated for item 13.1.1.

For a detailed list of correspondence received refer to the specific agenda item.

10.2 Petitions – None

10.3 Presentations

10.3.1 Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame Capital Campaign

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Presentation request dated October 17, 2024
- Presentation dated February 13, 2025
- Handout dated February 13, 2025

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**CPED Standing Committee
Draft Minutes
February 13, 2025**

Bruce Rainnie, President and CEO, Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Cuttell

THAT Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to provide a staff report to evaluate and provide options in response to the Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame Capital Campaign request in the amount of \$300,000.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.3.2 Nova Scotia Heritage Trust Proposal for Strengthening Built Heritage Protection

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Presentation request dated November 5, 2024
- Presentation dated February 13, 2025

This matter was deferred during the approval of the Order of Business.

10.3.3 Discovery Center Biodiversity and Aquarium Facility

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Presentation request dated January 24, 2025
- Presentation dated February 13, 2025

Dov Bercovici, President & CEO of the Discovery Center and Margaret Campbell, Lead Exhibit Designer gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Steele

THAT Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to provide a staff report to evaluate and provide options in response to the Discovery Center request of annual funding of \$200,000 for five years towards the operating of the Beaty Center for Marine Biodiversity.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Joseph Jesudason, District 12 spoke about the land-use by-law regulations for operating short-term rental accommodations and expressed concern with the permit and registration fee structure.

Rebecca Jamieson, District 7 spoke about the Halifax Rugby Football Club proposal for the construction of a clubhouse and spoke against the proposal as well as the alternatives listed within the staff report. Jamieson spoke to concerns regarding the proposed placement of the club, noise and other potential disruptions to neighbouring residents.

Pat Whitman, District 7 spoke about the Halifax Rugby Football Club proposal for the construction of a clubhouse and spoke against the proposal. Whitman spoke to the history of community consultation regarding Gorsebrook Park.

Jamieson and Whitman co-submitted a handout for the record.

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**CPED Standing Committee
Draft Minutes
February 13, 2025**

Maddison Dennison, Halifax spoke about the Halifax Rugby Football Club proposal for the construction of a clubhouse and spoke in favour of the proposal. Dennison spoke regarding the importance of community sport, the history of the club, pride and diversity, youth athletics and the range of community support and engagement.

Anthony Black, Halifax spoke about the Halifax Rugby Football Club proposal for the construction of a clubhouse and spoke in favour of the proposal. Black spoke in response to concerns expressed by some neighbours regarding maintaining the multi-use character of the park, off-season uses of the proposed clubhouse, and maintaining cordial relationships with neighbours.

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 Kent, seconded by Councillor Steele

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

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

13. REPORTS

13.1 STAFF

13.1.1 Halifax Rugby Football Club

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated December 5, 2024
- Correspondence from Makayla Frosst, Andrew Black, Nick Nickerson, Daniel Hiltz, Kelly Hiltz, Shelley Anderson and John Thomson, Sherry Lake, Toni White-Goodridge, John Goodridge, Elios Salloum, Helen Morrie, Tastrophia Pham, Fiona Talbot-Strong, Ted Hamilton, Dale McClare and Nell McClare, Shane MacKinnon, Maggie MacPhee, Kyl MacNeil Timms, Richard Spence, Sophie Babin, Kelly Moran, Dr. Rebecca A. Jamieson, Pat Connors, Anthony Black and Maddison Dennison, Peter Bowditch, Kes Morton, Dr. Mark Boyle, Ann-Marie Kerr, Nick Russell, Megan Kinsman, Jillian Sanford, Ines Rei, Brooke Last, Charlotte Brilliant, Kyle Lama, Sophia Black, Cody Anderson and Jessica Swaine

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Councillor Cuttell

THAT Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council decline the proposed HRFC clubhouse construction proposal.

Andy Conrad, Community Facility Partnership Coordinator and Brendon Smithson, Director Regional Recreation Services responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Cuttell

THAT the motion be amended to add “and direct to staff to engage the HRFC, and other stakeholders, on additional project elements that could be considered when a washroom capital project advances.”

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.

The motion as amended now read:

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**CPED Standing Committee
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February 13, 2025**

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Councillor Cuttell

THAT Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council decline the proposed HRFC clubhouse construction proposal and direct to staff to engage the HRFC, and other stakeholders, on additional project elements that could be considered when a washroom capital project advances.

MOTION AS AMENDED PUT AND PASSED.

13.1.2 RadStorm Community Arts Space Venue Acquisition Grant

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated January 20, 2025

MOVED by Councillor Cuttell, seconded by Councillor Steele

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

- 1. Approve the provision of a one-time contribution of \$100,000 to RadStorm Community Arts Space for capital costs relating to the purchase of 2177 Gottingen Street, Halifax subject to this amount being approved in Parks & Recreation's 2025-2026 budget.**
- 2. Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to finalize and execute, upon confirmation of the approval of the funding in Parks & Recreation's 2025-2026 budget, the Municipality's standard Contribution Agreement with RadStorm as set forth in Attachment 3 of the staff report dated January 20, 2025.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14. MOTIONS – NONE

15. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE

16. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

17. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – March 20, 2025

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:42 p.m.

Simon Ross-Siegel
Legislative Assistant