

Eastern District Planning Commission
Thursday, September 23, 2021
Minutes

PRESENT: Councillor Alfred Poirier, Chair
Warden Bruce Morrison, Vice-Chair
Councillor Jason Aucoin
Mayor Laurie Boucher
Councillor Mary Farrell
Councillor Bill MacFarlane
Councillor Mark MacIver
Councillor Perla MacLeod
Councillor Harris McNamara
Warden Amanda Mombourquette
Councillor Shawn Samson
Ms. Leanne MacEachen, Advisor
Mr. Don Marchand, Advisor

STAFF: John Bain, Director
Tammy MacLellan

REGRETS: Warden Laurie Cranton
Mr. Terry Doyle, Advisor
Mr. Glenn Horne, Advisor
Mr. Jeffery Lawrence, Advisor
Mr. Keith MacDonald, Advisor

1.0 Call to Order:

Councillor Alfred Poirier called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

2.0 Items Added to the Agenda:

a. Virtual Meetings (Warden Mombourquette)

Motion to approve the agenda with addition. Moved by Councillor Bill MacFarlane, seconded by Mayor Laurie Boucher. **Motion carried.**

3.0 Review of Minutes:

The Board reviewed the minutes of May 27, 2021.

Motion to accept the minutes as presented. Moved by Warden Bruce Morrison, seconded by Warden Amanda Mombourquette. **Motion carried.**

4.0 Director's Report:

1.1 Personnel – Alex Dunphy, Resignation

Alex Dunphy resigned as he accepted a position with West Hants Regional Municipality. The Commission wishes Alex all the best in his new endeavor.

1.2 Personnel – Dawn Sutherland, New Planner

The Commission hired Dawn Sutherland, Planner, who will start work on October 4, 2021.

1.3 Municipal Innovation Program - Funding

As the funding under the Municipal Innovation Program had been approved, the Commission wrote a Request for Proposals and received three strong proposals. The proposals were evaluated and the contract was rewarded to Upland Planning + Design.

The Commission staff have met with Upland virtually, and further meetings with the CAO's from the Counties will be scheduled.

1.4 Coastal Protection Act - Consultation

Consultations with the Province implementing the *Coastal Protection Act* is continuing.

Concerns that have been expressed to the Province:

1. Subdivision along a coastal area – it is unclear what information needs to be relayed to the applicant about the impacts on their development plans.
2. Records management – Municipalities will be responsible to store records for a period of 10 years. With the TownSuite software, this is not difficult for the Commission.
3. Enforcement - Municipalities are in favor of coastal protection but want to ensure it is a provincial responsibility; to ensure a provincial permit is part of the building process.

The Province is accepting submissions until September 30, 2021.

Motion to direct John Bain, Director, to write a letter re: *Coastal Protection Act* to the Province as outlined. Moved by Councillor Bill MacFarlane, seconded by Councillor Jason Aucoin. **Motion carried.**

1.5 September 30, 2021 – Truth and Reconciliation Day

The Commission will recognize September 30 as Truth and Reconciliation Day beginning this year.

Staff Activity:

Staff Activity – Major Projects and Municipal Planning Processes, Plan Amendments, Rezoning, Policy Changes and Miscellaneous Projects were reviewed.

Motion to accept the Director’s Report as presented. Moved by Mayor Laurie Boucher, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson. **Motion carried.**

5.0 Correspondence and Documentation:

Correspondence and Documentation were reviewed.

6.0 Discussion – Items added to the Agenda:

a. Virtual Meetings (Warden Mombourquette)

- It was discussed to move all or the majority of board meetings to a virtual setting. Mr. John Bain will research the legalities of hosting virtual meetings and report back to the board in the November meeting.

7.0 Next Meeting Date:


Next meeting scheduled on November 18, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. as a virtual meeting.

8.0 Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn meeting. Moved by Warden Bruce Morrison, seconded by Councillor Shawn Samson. **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

for 
Councillor Alfred Poirier
Chair


Tammy MacLellan
Recorder

