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**ATTENDING**

Councillor David Mangle, Director Community Development Chrystal Fuller, Bill Zimmerman, Janet Eaton, Hayden McKee-Godry, Grace Hamilton-Burge, and Recording Secretary Dan Stovel

**ABSENT WITH REGRETS**

Mayor Jeff Cantwell, Chief Administrative Officer Erin Beaudin and Sustainability Coordinator Acadia University Jodie Noiles

**ALSO ATTENDING**

Deputy Mayor Wendy Donovan, Councillor Hugh Simpson, Councillor Mercedes Brian, Manager of Economic Development Ericka Wicks, and interested members of the public

**LATE ARRIVALS**

Bill Zimmerman and Janet Eaton

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair, Councillor Mangle, called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm

**1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as presented

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 15, 2016**

The minutes were approved as drafted.

**Chair directed a round of introductions for all those in attendance at the meeting**

**3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

**a. Review of Priorities for Committee**

- Not all of the Priorities captured at the August 15<sup>th</sup> meeting will be feasible to pursue due to resource constraints
- The recommended priority list presented in the Agenda Package was established based on the top priorities identified at the August 15, 2016 meeting
- Recommended List of Priorities grouped under the following headings:
  - Integrate and develop TNS, Fair Trad, CittaSlow, UNESCO, Transition Town
  - Community Projects
  - Community Education & Engagement
  - “Greening” Municipal Infrastructure & Practices
  - Take advantage of existing opportunities and assets
  - Municipal Planning Strategy
  - Integrated Community Sustainability Plan
  - Pursue Partners in Climate Protection (PCP) further
- Proposed Amendments to the Recommended Priority List:
  - The Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP) should be a stand-alone issue and not combined with the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS)



- The next step is for the Priorities to be considered in the Strategic Planning Process for the next Council

**b. Assessment Tool Updates**

**i. [The Natural Step \(TNS\)](#)**

- Internally, staff is investigating The Natural Step

**ii. Assessment Tool**

- The assessment tool checklist will be used when reviewing the following types of documents associated with Policies, Bylaws, Programs and/or Developments that may impact the environment:
  - Requests for Decision (RFD)
  - Project Charters
  - Information Reports
  - Planning Documents
- Eight issues for consideration have been identified within the Assessment Tool:
  - Ecosystem Health and Functioning
  - Climate Change Adaptation
  - Climate Change Mitigation
  - Reduction of Dependence on Fossil Fuels
  - Energy Efficiency
  - Food Systems
  - Active Transportation
  - Ecological Goods and Services
- The assessment tool provides an opportunity to provide explanatory notes and alternative solutions for each of the issues
- The Assessment tool was tested against the Development Constraints Map identified in para 3c

**c. Development Constraints Map**

- The Development Constraints map is composed of a number of features in the town and the intention of the map is to restrict or manage development in environmentally sensitive locations in Town in a way that mitigates and minimizes the impact from an environmental perspective
- There is a requirement to be more rigorous in identifying environmentally sensitive locations and have better policies in place to influence them
- The proposed generalized development constraint overlay used six components to identify areas with specific constraints:
  - An eight (8) metre watercourse buffer
  - Areas of slope 20% or greater
  - The location of production well heads
  - Two (2), Five (5) and twenty-five (25) year source water protection zones
  - Flood way (1:20 years); and
  - Flood fringes (1:100 years)
- Work is being put into re-defining the map with different data sets



- Volunteer students from Dalhousie University School of Planning will further develop the Development Constraints Map and there will be an accompanying report that will identify the reasons behind the constraints
- This is all about development rights and development opportunities
- The Environmental Committee will submit feedback through the Chair
- There is an opportunity for the Dalhousie Students to present their findings to the Committee, likely within the next three months. This will be the starting point for the Planning Advisory Committee to move forward

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

##### a. 2017 Meeting Calendar

- The Committee postponed this issue until the October meeting

#### 5. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

- [Community Energy Plan](#)
  - The Community energy plan for Halifax is being presented Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am and will be available online. It may prove interesting for this committee to look at
- Acadia University Axe Radio
  - An Environmental Coop student at Acadia University is trying to build community development with the new Axe Radio. An effort to pull the student body and Wolfville closer together. Recommended by Chair for the Coop student to attend the September 27<sup>th</sup> Town and Gown Committee
- Salt Use
  - If there is a bad winter, there may be more and more salt use – what are alternatives to salt that will have less of an environmental impact to the Town
- Sustainability Coordinator
  - Proposal put forward that it would be worthwhile to appoint a Sustainability Coordinator within the Town of Wolfville
- [Transition Town Initiative](#)
  - Consideration of sustainability practices
- [Eco-Literacy](#)
  - An educational program based on systems thinking
- [Quest Working Group](#)
  - Will be putting forward a funding application for a “How-To Guide” for municipalities to plan effectively for sustainable energy use

The meeting adjourned at 1:28 pm

**Approved at the March 6, 2017 Environmental Sustainability Committee Meeting**

**As recorded by Dan Stovel, AA Corporate Services**