
ATTENDING

- Deputy Mayor Oonagh Proudfoot, Chair
- Mayor Wendy Donovan,
- Councillor Wendy Elliott,
- Councillor Isabel Madeira-Voss,
- Alice Cohen,
- Beverly Boyd,
- David MacKinnon,
- George Lohnes
- Mark Bishop, and
- Recording Secretary Amanda Brown

ALSO ATTENDING

- Director of Planning & Development, Devin Lake
- Russ Sanche, Valley Homeless No More

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC & ESC COMMITTEE MEMBERS ATTENDING

- Shon Whitney
- Lis Porter
- Kelly McGregor
- Alicia Christie, Community Engagement and Tourism Coordinator
- Simon Greenough

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Deputy Mayor Oonagh Proudfoot, called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm.

Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions
1. Approval of Agenda	IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED CARRIED
2. Approval of Minutes	IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 11, 2021 BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED CARRIED
3. Public Input / Question Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No public input

Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions
-------------	--------------------------

4. Old Business:

a. Flood Risk Mitigation Plan (Final Version attached)

- Director Lake provided a background surrounding the Flood Risk Mitigation Plan and the intent surrounding the outcome of the report and adding to the Capital Investment Plan.
- The Plan includes existing and projected impacts such as future Rainfall intensities, Coastal Total Water levels for existing and the future. Review of Development Constraints.
- The study itself is a very high overview and Director Lake is currently just focusing on the recommendations provided.
- The main areas of recommendations are as follows: Communication and Education, connecting the two dyke systems and living shoreline, Sewer Treatment and Lift Stations, Flood Forecasting/Warning System and Monitoring and Future Actions. It was noted signage should be put in place along the waterfront and information provided to homeowners.
- Councillor Elliott advised she sent Director Lake historical information after the last meeting for review.
- The Committee advised they are pleased to see the communication and education piece being provided to the public and the proposed brochure looks great, however, it was suggested that there should be something included suggesting in the form of a media release of the Town's role and intent will be.

5. New Business

a. Housing Discussion (Staff Overview)

- Director Lake provided a presentation surrounding MPS Implementation for Housing. Within social equity housing is something that has been identified.
- Director Lake is currently looking to lay the groundwork and at future meetings there will be further discussions surrounding housing. Russ Sanche from Homeless no more is also attending to provide further information.
- The definition of affordable housing, CMHC defines it when individuals pay 30% are core housing needs and those that spend 50% or more are sever housing needs.
- Currently in our Province there is an impact due to short-term rentals and this has an impact.

Agenda Item

Discussion and Decisions

- Housing Roles; Federal; Provincial; Regional; Private; Non-Profit and Municipal. CMHC has created a Housing Supply Challenge which will award \$300 Million over five years.
 - Director Lake advised the Committee he will provide the presentation to the group for their review and future discussion.
 - Provincial Statement: Goal: To provide housing opportunities to meet the needs of all Nova Scotians. They are currently in a state of looking how they are going to move forward including creating an Affordable Housing Commission.
 - Regional Interest: Settlement, Economic Development, Municipal Facilities, Environmental protection.
 - Municipal – Primarily responsible for land use, planning, development control, building and fire inspection.
 - **Review of Trends: Growth-** The populations and growth within the Province of Nova Scotia and the factors behind the growth. Some are from Covid however, this is not the only trend that has contributed.
 - **Needs** - Needs have changed with smaller households and an aging population have created different needs.
 - **Job Shed** – Many individuals are working from home.
 - Supply DOES NOT solve all housing issues but is fundamental and an ingredient to making the other issues easier.
 - **NOAH** – Naturally occurring Affordable Housing – unsubsidized housing that exists within the private market.
 - All levels of government need to work together to improve the housing equality.
-
- **ii. Russ Sanche (Valley Homeless No More)**
 - Would like to bring an insight and education as to what is going on with housing in the Valley.
 - There is currently a 10-year plan to end homelessness and it originally started with youth only, but it was asked to expand to include everyone.
 - 2021 Priorities; increasing housing units, Mobile crisis response, Community based MH, House most vulnerable; prevention and Community Safe Spaces. Models were reviewed from other regions and based on best practices and systems that worked a group identified the outcomes.
 - Mr. Sanche advised the presentation will be provided to the Committee.
 - It is noted that both Federal and Provincial Governments have been supportive of the Homeless No More program and promoting change and talking.

Agenda Item

Discussion and Decisions

- They are currently looking at housing options, but they require data. Acadia has partnered with the organization and they will be assisting along with the Department of Community Development.
- Kings, Annapolis, and Hants County frontline workers come together once or twice a month depending on the County to collaborate regarding the management of providing safe spaces.
- In October 2020, Acadia launched an Agency-based point in time count, based on accepted practices in the sector of West Hants, Kings and Annapolis – Participants: Approx. 36 frontline workers administered the survey from 13 organizations. The age of the participants: 16+, Surveys sent out 400, Surveys completed 247 - Agency Based Count Valley Numbers – Emergency 17, Unsheltered 30, Provisionally 73, At Risk 127, Total 247 which does not include children within the families.
- Homelessness costs more than well thought out strategies to accommodate and provide housing
- Housing options and acuity of need built on a compassionate, inclusive community, the number in need for emergency response is less.
- Deputy Mayor stated although there are a lot of challenges with housing there are also a lot of opportunities which makes her very hopeful.
- It was requested that the definitions of the terms be provided with the presentation especially concerning the survey conducted by the Acadia student.
- What is the distribution between men and woman and what are the differences, and the needs of each group would be helpful information. It was noted Youth is the age group of 16-24.
- Support of organizations need continue to happen to expand the availability and this needs to be throughout all organizations as well as the community.
- It was asked as well when the numbers are completed it should be also inclusive of individuals who do not self identify.

6. Round Table

- Director Lake advised that PAC going forward will be focusing towards housing and possible recommendations to Council surrounding the important issue.
- Discussion if there should be a “Housing Sub-Committee”? Director Lake advised there would be a number of things that will be looked at however, there also has to be research surrounding what is permitted to be done.



Agenda Item

Discussion and Decisions

- Mayor Donovan discussed Engage Nova Scotia which Director Lake and herself are going to follow up on and it involves data collected throughout areas. It includes “Needs” and they would like to have them present on housing and child poverty.
- George suggested that it would be beneficial to have someone speak to the committee who previously worked within the Town about the history of previous methods surrounding housing shortages.

7. Next Meeting

April 8, 2021 – 4:00 p.m.

8. Adjournment

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 5:51 p.m.

CARRIED

As recorded by Amanda Brown, Assistant, Office of the CAO