

# Meeting Minutes

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**March 09 , 2017 - 6:30 PM**

## **Prospect Road Community Centre**

Attending: John Cascadden - Chair, Scott Guthrie - Vice Chair, Tom Robertson, Peter Lund, Lindsay Gates , Frank Johnston , Andrew Giles, Councillor Richard Zurawski and Councillor Adams

Regrets from : Bob Angus, Murray Power and Councillor Whitman ; Absent : Mayor Mike Savage

HRM appointments currently vacant : two citizens to be appointed by council . Advised by clerk's office these seats to be filled by end of April , 2017

Also attending : Reg Rankin, Executive Director; and Ken Donnelly , CMC communications consultant

Guests attending : Ken Meech - Mirror, Harold Johnson – Vice president , Dexter , Steve Copp - Mirror, Joe Mann – Mirror , Dr. Paul Arnold, Bio-Logic Environmental Services

Chair John Cascadden called the meeting to order.

- 1. Approval of agenda as circulated . Motion by Andrew Giles seconded by Peter Lund to approve . Carried.**
- 2. Approval of the Minutes of January 18 , 2017 as circulated.**
  - Moved by Lindsay Gates seconded by Andrew Giles that the minutes of January 18, 2017 be approved as circulated – Carried.
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- 3. Business arising from the minutes**

**It was noted that the letter of November 19, 2016 from The Halifax Waste Resource Society to Mayor Savage remains unanswered . Councillor Zurawski volunteered to continue to pursue with the Mayor's office for a response. In addition, Councillor Zurawski also volunteered to seek HRM's release to CMC of HRM staff's recent waste characterization study. CMC considers this, for comparative analysis, to be in the best public interests .**

#### 4. The Otter Lake Landfill ' Waste Characterization Study ' conducted in December 2016

This is The Waste Characterization Study and its findings contained in the Final Report on the character of waste, sampled in a point of time, received daily at the Otter lake point of entry ; that is , on the floor of the Front End Processor . It was now before the Board. . Dr. Arnold in his presentation highlighted his findings of this site survey taken during December , 2016 . Identified there was evidenced of the RESIDENTIAL incoming garbage contained over 50 % of materials ( measured in weight ) eligible for diversion away from the landfill.

With the industrial , commercial institutional ( ICI ) garbage stream ( which type of garbage is destined for export under the new bylaw ) contained even greater - over 70 % of materials that could have been otherwise diverted from Otter Lake receiving facilities .

To cite the prominent offending materials that could have been diverted within the residential stream , 10 % of the total 50 % divertible amount is in plastics and a surprising amount of 13 % in textiles . The ICI stream contained slightly higher percentages of plastics and textiles . The percentage amount of compost arriving continues to challenge HRM for greater diversion with 14 % of the divertible found in the residential loads but double that found in the expoted ICI stream – an astonishing 28 %.

Following presentation , there was extraordinary interest expressed by virtually all Board members in the implications of these findings . There was a lot of engagement with Dr Arnold on elaboration of his findings ; as well a lot of open dialogue among Board members on CMC's role in reducing this excessive amount of divertible materials reaching the worst of destinations – the landfill. And it was patently clear to all that a review of the HRM education programs is in order to determine its effectiveness. It was noted that as regards better textile diversion it is equally clear that with all the established urban infrastructure for textile depots – that the public is seemly not generally aware of this free diversion and to the public benefit to charitable organizations for their receiving revenues for its collection and recycling . It is further understood that CMC at their next meeting in May shall consider further actions . And, in this important regard, CMC may consider the significance of the study's implications of this excessive amount of inappropriate , costly and avoidable diversion reaching its worst of destinations.

There was also an informative presentation from Joe Mann, representing Mirror , on the progress of the construction of the new landfill cell number 7 A and the status of call number 6 to close this June.

- *Motion by Scott Guthrie seconded by Peter Lund to approve the final report of the waste characterization study as was presented by Dr. Arnold . Carried*

5. The CMC Newsletter containing the annual report – was delivered , via Canada Post , to all our households, approximately 8,000 in number within the defined affected surrounding communities of the Otter Lake landfill . It was presented by Ken Donnelly , our Communications Consultant .

Following presentation, the Board welcomed input from the attending public to provide welcome input on any matter.

There were three members from the public attending who gave input ; namely , Kathy Oakley , Prospect Village ; Barb Allen, Terance Bay and Iain Rankin, MLA . They all spoke about the value of the newsletters, especially the latest containing the annual report , and very much encouraging the better diversion of materials from the landfill especially textiles as being a disturbing surprising amount of avoidable materials with so much other receiving places to receive it free. More education by HRM and other bodies was strongly recommended .

There was unanimity by all around the room , both public and Board members , that an excellent job was done on preparing and its distribution by our consultant , Ken Donnelly.

- Motion by Scott Guthrie seconded by Andrew Giles to accept this latest Newsletter from CMC as high quality. Carried
6. Ratification of program expenditures under Communications subsequent to our last meeting for the past months of January and February as per the invoices circulated to the Board for consideration.
    - Motion by Andrew Giles seconded by Frank Johnston to ratify the approved expenditure amounts of \$ 3,904.25 representing for the month of services in January/17 ; and \$ 6,253.40 for the month of February/17 . Carried

#### 7. Other Business.

It was the certain consensus , notwithstanding our standing policy of holding our meetings continuing to be the second Thursday on the odd numbered months: that our next meeting will be held on the ‘ third’ Thursday of May – May 18, 2017 . This meeting will also accommodate the yearly – and legally required – meeting of The Halifax Waste Resource Society . At which time our yearly elections for Board of Directors ( ( 9 ) will be held for both the Society and to also serve the Society’s assigned same number of 9 designated seats to the CMC Board of Directors for the coming year.

Motion to adjourn moved by Peter Lund.



Otter Lake Community Monitoring

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