

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - MEETING MINUTES

November 30, 2011 @ DHBC Board Room, 1668 Barrington Street, Suite 301

Attendance:

Erin Harrison, Frank Palermo, Beth Lewis, Heather Ternoway, Jennifer Watts

Regrets:

Gene Daniels, Jim Donovan, Ross Soward, Peter McNab, Lucy van den Brink, Jordi Morgan, Paul MacKinnon

1. Meeting was called to order by Frank Palermo. Agenda and previous minutes were approved.

2. Working Committees

i) **Information Group:** Update from Erin about a meeting with Erin, Ross and Gene with the student working on the digital model.

- Concerns raised that the model might be used by developers as a tool to sell their properties. Ensure the model has the same information for every site/developer not matter what the size, proposed use, etc.
- Information provided should be concise and useful. Don't want to overwhelm users with an excessive amount of site/development/municipal information.
- Can we add infrastructure information as well (Frank)? Not just information on sites/proposed developments but also add information on proposed transit investments, etc.
- Different layers can show additional information such as public involvement information or information/tools from planning processes in HRM (Regional Plan Review, Open Space Functional Plan). It will depend on what people are looking for and at what scale.
- Have to also consider at what point in the development process or decision-making process does something get put on the map? Could show just ownership of various sites. Could show proposed transit improvements, etc.
- Have to consider overall scale. Beyond the North End? Urban core defined by Regional Plan?
- Fusion and DHBC have offered resources to develop the map.

ACTION: People should provide any more ideas they have for the digital model to Erin within a week. The group will meet again about possibilities. Will meet again with the group from Fusion in early new year.

ii) Engagement Group

- Children’s Design Charrette was held at St. Joseph’s A. McKay School in November. Good turn out with lots of good ideas from the kids. Used the ideas to create a site plan for the new playground.
- Frank and Andy Fillmore are looking at the Regional Plan, in particular the community-based pieces.
- There needs to be a better way to show what various planning concepts look like such as density. People will refuse or accept a study but most people just want to know what various densities look like.
- How can PDC be involved in a process where we launch a discussion about density, building height?
- PDC could provide a combination of things: education tools, accurate visuals, discussion platform.
- These sorts of topics seem to always create polarized sides (many examples) but once real discussion and information begins to flow, people realize they’re not that polarized.
- Focus on the North End for this type of session/discussion as so many new developments are starting and will be starting.
- The process will be very open and transparent. It will involve community members, HRM and developers along the way.
- Create a series around one main topic like the “Its More than Buses” sessions.

ACTION: Add “Planning in the North End” as future agenda item to further discuss with the group the details of this.

iii) Long-term Relationships Group

- Frank spoke with Lauralea Nichols and she is interested in discussing the PDC further. She would like to wait until the structure of CPEDSC is more settled before scheduling a meeting.
- Frank created a chart that maps the three main objectives of the PDC with the various groups/connections the PDC has made or will make in an effort to outline what the PDC needs from these groups as well as what the PDC provides to these groups.

ACTION: We will book two hours for the group to work through the chart and fill it in.

iv) Space

Abyss and Young are scouting space. Heather will send an email. There are a few options: 1256 Barrington Street, 1888 Brunswick Street, 1335 Barrington Street, 3681 Kempt Road, old Discovery Centre.

3. PROJECT UPDATES

- a. Sustainable Transportation Task Force [It’s More Than Buses, Switch]
- b. PDC Website
- c. Other projects: Election Prep, Argyle Street

Project updates were not discussed at this meeting. They will be brought forward to the next meeting.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Kickstand Sessions: Various offices approached CEU to organize and host a 2-day session on active transportation in Halifax. Also there is possible funding for a 1-day session on transportation at a provincial level.

5. COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Set a schedule for 2012. Heather will send out a schedule for 2012's meetings to the group.
- If anyone has not sent their contact information and short bio to Ross, they should send it for inclusion in PDC's documentation and website.

6. ADJOURNEMENT

Next meeting date: Wednesday January 18, 2012 @ 5:30 pm. Location TBD.