

Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Minutes of a Meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee

Held in Council Chambers, 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville NS
In Person and Via Audio and Video Conference
Thursday, February 22, 2024 – 7:00 p.m.

Attendance

Peter Simpson, Member at Large, Chair
Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson, ex officio - arrived at 7:12 p.m.
Councillor Cathy Moore, District 5 - arrived 7:14 p.m.
Councillor Michelle Greek, District 7
Councillor Chasidy Veinotte, District 10
Keith Drysdale, Member at Large
Larry Hagell, Member at Large
Ann Mech, Member at Large (via video conference)

Staff

Jeff Merrill, Director of Planning and Development Services
Ella Gindi, Planner I
Susan Berry, Administrative Assistant

Regrets

Councillor Martin Bell, District 2, Vice Chair

1. Call to Order

Chair Simpson called the meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) to order at 7:00 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting was held in Mi'kma'ki, the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

2. Procedure for Public to Address the Committee

Chair Simpson read aloud The Procedure for Addressing the Committee (printed at the bottom of the agenda) to those in attendance.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor Veinotte, seconded by Councillor Greek, that the agenda of the Planning Advisory Committee be approved as circulated.
Carried unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes – January 24, 2024

Moved by Larry Hagell, seconded by Keith Drysdale, that the minutes of the January 24, 2024, Planning Advisory Committee be approved as circulated.

Carried unanimously.

5. Business Arising from Minutes

Mr. Merrill reported back that Council accepted the items from last meeting and sent back a request to examine the heritage policy in regard to matters of accessibility.

6. Planning Advisory Committee Matters (Nil)

7. Heritage Advisory Committee Matters

7.1 New Elm Union Church – Substantial Alteration

Ms. Gindi presented to the committee the request received for alternation to the New Elm Union Church (report attached to the agenda). The proposed alternation would construct a wheelchair ramp on the existing concrete steps.

The deck and steps are not considered to be a character defining element to the current structure.

The committee discussed the following:

The importance of accessibility in community buildings and character defining elements.

Moved by Councillor Veinotte, seconded by Mayor Bolivar-Getson that the Heritage Advisory Committee recommends to Council to approve the proposed alternation to the municipal registered heritage property New Elm Union Church.

Carried unanimously.

7.2 Proposed Revisions to Policy 027 Heritage Property

Ms. Gindi presented to the committee the proposed amendments to MODL Policy 027 Heritage Policy that would deem accessibility alterations to be non-substantial to allow these alterations to proceed more efficiently while balancing heritage preservation.

The committee discussed what would occur if the alteration would substantially alter the heritage character of the building. Ms. Gindi presented what the recommendation would be in these cases.

Moved by Councillor Greek, seconded by Larry Hagell, that the Heritage Advisory Committee recommends council approve the proposed amendment to Policy-027 Heritage Property Policy to deem accessibility enhancements as non-substantial alterations, provided they do not alter any character-defining elements.

Carried unanimously.

8. Added Items – Nil

9. In Camera - Nil

10. Next Meeting Date - Thursday, March 28, 2024

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.