

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - MEETING MINUTES

October 19, 2011 @ DHBC Board Room, 1668 Barrington Street, Suite 301

Attendance:

Gene Daniels, Jim Donovan, Ross Soward, Erin Harrison, Peter McNab, Frank Palermo, Beth Lewis, Jennifer Watts, Lucy van den Brink, Heather Ternoway

Regrets:

Jordi Morgan

1. Meeting was called to order by Frank Palermo/Agenda was approved.

2. Working Committees

Information Group

- Jim and Frank have made attempts to connect with Councillor Nichols regarding getting space on the CPEDSC agenda. Jim reviewed notes on the possible form of the presentation. Using a “what’s in it for us” approach by linking the objectives of the PDC directly to the various HRM Priorities including Regional Planning Review Process, “A Greater Halifax” Economic Strategy (2011-16) and the “Well Planned and Engaged Communities” Outcome Area of the Corporate Plan. Will continue to pursue presentation to CPEDSC.
- Frank has set up a meeting to talk to Kasia Tota re. engagement strategy.

Engagement Group

- Discussion of role of board: advisory vs. actually facilitating engagement events.
- We have work similar to other groups such as Fusion, etc.
- We can define ourselves in two ways: with actual physical space and by acting as a “broker” or “curator” of public engagement events, thereby bringing the other of other groups into ours. Adds consistency to the engagement initiatives in Halifax.
- Can we explore the option of having businesses pay for the service of organizing, facilitating and hosting public engagement events?
- Explore targeting high school students for particular involvement in PDC, perhaps through a PDC internship. This could also act as a way to establish a connection with the HRSB.
- One starting point for this approach would be to have a meeting bringing all the like-minded groups together.
- Idea of “brokerage” brings about the serious need for space to set PDC apart from the other groups.
- PDC can act as the navigator for existing processes thereby allowing public engagement around development in HRM to have consistency.
- Feel that pursuing space should be the specific responsibility of one or two people in the group.

Discussion about Securing Space

- Committee members agree securing space if of top priority.
- Business Plan suggests \$68k for rent and a need for approximately 2000-4000 sqft of store front space.
- North End as a possible location. Also old Discovery Centre Space.
- Temporary space should be explored but should not slow the pursuit of permanent space.
- Perhaps a smaller permanent space could be periodically supplemented by larger temporary spaces.

ACTION: Gene and Peter volunteered to lead securing space for PDC.

Technology Ideas

- Erin has agreed to explore options for PDC related to Facebook and Twitter.
- Create a Google Calendar to all groups in HRM can update with engagement events (moderated by PDC).
- Explore making the New Developments Map a digital map on the website so that people can click and get development information and agreement statuses from sites on the map.
- General capacity building for public on architecture and planning to help people understand urban form.
- Explore a webcast with Haligonian.
- NSCAD student could create a 3D model.

ACTION: Gene will discuss the creation of a 3D model with NSCAD student.

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. Project updates will be shared via email.

4. NEW BUSINESS

New business was not discussed at this meeting.

5. COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

No new announcements were made.

6. ADJOURNEMENT

Next meeting date: Wednesday November 23, 2011 @ 5:30 pm. Location DHBC Boardroom.