



The regular meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee for the Town of Mahone Bay was held on Tuesday, July 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Present:

Councillor C. O'Neill (Chair)
Deputy Mayor K. Nauss
Councillor R. Nowe
Mayor D. Devenne
J. Biebesheimer
C. Barr
Planner, G. Sturtevant
Development Officer, H. Archibald
CAO, Dylan Heide
Clerk, Maureen Hughes

Absent:

K. Martell (with regrets)

Gallery: 7

Agenda

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Nowe, **"THAT the agenda be approved as amended to include the Development of an Action Plan under New Business."**
Motion carried.

Minutes

A motion by Mr. Biebesheimer, seconded by Mr. Barr, **"THAT the minutes of the May 7, 2019 Planning Advisory Committee meeting be approved as circulated."** **Motion carried.**

Short-Term Rentals

The committee received a presentation from Development Officer, Heather Archibald, and Planner, Garth Sturtevant, regarding Existing Regulations for Short-term Rentals (Tourist Homes & Tourist Establishments). The initial focus of the presentation was to highlight how Short-Term Rentals/Tourist Homes are defined and regulated by the Town of Mahone Bay Land Use By-law.

New Business

Letter from Minister Porter

The committee received correspondence from Hon. Chuck Porter, Minister of the Department of Municipal Affairs, and discussion focused on a portion of the letter which referenced Short-Term Rental Accommodations. Included in the letter from Minister Porter is a statement of the

OneNS goal of increasing tourism revenue to \$4B by 2024 and the recent findings by a tourism accommodations needs-assessment that Nova Scotia requires an additional 5,500 accommodation units to reach 7,000 units by 2024 to reach the \$4B target.

Update and Discussion on Changes to Tourism Accommodations Act & Assessment Act

Mr. Sturtevant advised the Committee that the Tourist Accommodations Registration Act has been passed by the provincial legislature and that municipalities are now waiting for the accompanying regulations.

PAC Vacancy

A motion by Deputy Mayor Nauss, seconded by Councillor Nowe, **“THAT the Planning Advisory Committee recommend that Council appoint Francis Kangata to the Planning Advisory Committee.”** **Motion carried.**

PAC Action Plan

The Chair introduced a discussion regarding the development of an Action Plan for the Planning Advisory Committee. The CAO noted that one of the functions of the Planning Advisory Committee is to inform the Plan Review and as that is anticipated in this fiscal year an Action Plan may be an opportunity for the committee to focus on priorities which would inform their recommendations to Council in this regard. Prior to the next meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee members will be asked for priority items to inform the discussion of an Action Plan.

Questions

The committee received questions and comments on the 100m required distance between tourist homes, holiday rentals and their effect on long-term accommodations, and the importance of a public process as part of the upcoming Plan Review.

Meeting adjourned upon motion at 8:16 p.m.

Town of Mahone Bay

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Clerk, Maureen Hughes

Chair, Colleen O’Neill