



City of St. Catharines

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## **ST. CATHARINES HERITAGE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting of Thursday, July 11, 2013**

**PRESENT:** Evan Acs  
John Bacher  
Gail Benjafield  
Heather Foss  
John Haynes  
Calvin Jessome  
Robin McPherson  
Marty Mako  
Brian Narhi

**STAFF:** Kevin Blozowski, Planning and Development Services  
Sara Epp, Planning and Development Services  
Jim Riddell, Planning and Development Services

**REGRETS:** Dennis Gannon  
Mathew Siscoe, Councillor

**ABSENT:** Chris Loat

**PUBLIC:** Mike Mirabella, 18 Power Glen  
John Pisaro, 18 Power Glen

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Brian Narhi took the chair and called the meeting to order in Committee Room 1 at 5:05 p.m.

### **2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

#### **2.1. Meeting of SCHC, Thursday, June 13, 2013**

Moved by: John Bacher  
Seconded by: Robin McPherson

"That the SCHC ratify and adopt the minutes of the SCHC meeting as revised, held Thursday, June 13, 2013, copies having been previously distributed."

**CARRIED**

### **3. MATTERS REFERRED FROM COUNCIL**

There were no matters referred from Council.

### **4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

#### **4.1. Heritage Permit Application**

**Address: 18 Power Glen**

**Proposal: To construct a new 2464.2 ft<sup>2</sup>, 2 storey, single detached dwelling**

**Applicant: Mike and Susan Mirabella**

**File No.: 10.64.176C**

Application is made for a heritage permit to allow construction of a 229 m<sup>2</sup> (2464.2 ft<sup>2</sup>), 2 storey detached dwelling on the subject lands, which are located within the Power Glen Heritage District. John Pisaro and Mike Mirabella made a brief presentation regarding the proposed new dwelling.

Section 5.C.4 of the Power Glen Heritage Conservation District Plan (July, 2010) provides guidelines for new construction in the “2005 Homes” sub area.

According to the guidelines, new construction should be “compatible with adjoining properties and the streetscape; constructed in a manner that avoids replication of other homes, appears new; and be generally no higher than 2 storeys.” It was then,

Moved by: John Bacher

Seconded by: Evan Acs

“That the heritage permit application for a 2 storey detached dwelling at 18 Power Glen be approved.”

***CARRIED***

#### **4.2. Designation of Alexandra School**

At the June 13, 2013 meeting the Committee passed a motion to conduct research on the history of Alexandra School for the purposes of pursuing designation. In order to implement that direction, Brian Narhi has prepared a report entitled “A Brief History of Alexandra Public School, 82 Henry Street, St. Catharines” (July 2013).

In summary, the original building was designed by Hamilton architectural firm Stewart and Witton and constructed in 1909-10. The school was subsequently enlarged in 1913 and 1916 by Thomas H. Wiley, a prominent St. Catharines architect of the day. The report concludes that Alexandra School still stands today as a reminder of the great population growth and industrial economic prosperity experienced in St. Catharines during the first half of the twentieth century.

The Committee discussed the style of the building and process moving forward. The District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) will be invited to attend the meeting. Staff will provide members with copies of the rating system and forms. It was suggested that a site visit would also be prudent. It was then,

Moved by: John Bacher  
Seconded by: Evan Acs

“That the report prepared by Brian Narhi entitled ‘A Brief History of Alexandra Public School, 82 Henry Street, St. Catharines, dated July, 2013’, be received and that the Committee rate the property based on its rating system and provide a recommendation at the next meeting. Representatives from the District School Board of Niagara should be invited to the meeting.”

***CARRIED***

### **4.3. Reports from Sub-Committees**

#### **4.3.1. Designations, Plaquing and Ceremonies**

A plaquing ceremony will be planned for Hostetter cemetery with a date to be set for September or October 2013. The Ten Broeck cemetery may be a candidate for plaquing in 2014; however, it is currently in dire need of maintenance, as it is quite overgrown. The cemetery is located behind Linhaven. The Committee discussed the status of the house plaques and whether they have been ordered. Staff will confirm at the next meeting.

#### **4.3.2. Public Outreach and Education (POE)**

The library window display has been installed and has been well received by the public. Possible options for next year’s window display were discussed. In particular, a window display regarding “St. Catharines Firsts” was suggested, which would portray a variety of innovations that first appeared in St. Catharines. Alternately, St. Catharines has also been linked to the American Civil War, particularly as a place for confederate sympathizers. A window display could also explore this local connection.

#### **4.3.3. Research and Inventory**

There was no new information from the research and inventory sub-committee.

#### **4.3.4. Heritage Districts**

There was no new information regarding heritage districts.

#### **4.3.5. War of 1812 Bicentennial**

Brian Narhi provided a brief update on the War of 1812 bicentennial

activities. The Laura Secord walk and Tall Ships in Port Dalhousie were both well attended events. The War of 1812 Bicentennial Committee is working on publications and finalizing the genealogy certificates. They are also planning closing events for 2014-2015.

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

**5.1.** Gail Benjafield shared a painting by Julie Snider of the Hair Cloth building that she won at a silent auction.

**5.2.** A new residential development on Vansickle Road may be constructing a new road which could potentially be named after a historically significant person. Gail Benjafield has attempted to contact the developer multiple times to inform them of this potential opportunity. Kevin Blozowski noted that developers are already provided with a list of significant individuals for street names when they apply for their planning applications. It is therefore, up to the discretion of the developer as to what the street will be called.

**5.3.** Robin McPherson updated the Committee on the status of the blog. The blog will go live once all Committee members have submitted their entries and a proper calendar with release dates is determined.

**5.4.** Kevin Blozowski informed the Committee of the how heritage has impacted the new draft Zoning By-law. In a meeting with the representatives of Mayholme, they expressed their preference to maintain their cultural facility status. As a result, the site will be zoned institutional.

## **6. INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no information/correspondence.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further items of business, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 8, 2013.

Committee members should advise Britney Williamson at 905-688-5601 (Extension 1704) or [brwilliamson@stcatharines.ca](mailto:brwilliamson@stcatharines.ca) if they are unable to attend the meeting or did not receive the item(s) noted in the agenda.

Minutes prepared by:  
Sara Epp  
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Planning and Development Services