

Canada 150 Anniversary Task Force

Minutes

Thursday, April 07, 2016

St. Catharines Museum at 7:00 pm

Attendance:

Brandon Houtby; Karen Sabzali; Sal Sorrento (Councillor Ward 3); Mary Stanko; Sandie Timco; Maria Luisa Tiro; Rick Vanderkuip; Edwin Wand; David Warren.

Regrets:

Grace Cirocco, David Waddington

Staff Liaison:

Carla Mackie, Historical Services Coordinator
Kathleen Powell, Historical Services Supervisor
Dave Rapelje, Operations Manager, Performing Arts Centre

1. **Meeting called to order: Carla Mackie in lieu of Chair (Staff Liaison)**
7:01 pm

2. **Motion to approve the agenda**
Moved by D. Warren, Carried

3. **Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting**
(First meeting – not applicable)

4. **Business**

4.1 Member introductions

Round Table of Member Introductions

4.2 Canada 150 Anniversary Task Force

4.2.1 Canada 150 Anniversary Task Force role and responsibilities
<https://www.stcatharines.ca/en/governin/Canada-150-Anniversary-Task-Force.asp>

Carla Mackie provided an overview to the committee of the Task Force Terms of Reference, including the Statement of Purpose.

Carla noted that other community organizations other than those listed can also be approached to partner with the committee as the Task Force goes through its work.

City staff from a number of departments are available to support and assist the Task Force as required.

4.2.2 Advisory Committee Handbook

<http://www.stcatharines.ca/en/governin/resources/Advisory-Committee-Handbook.pdf>

The Committee's Rules of Order – The Handbook for Advisory Committees was discussed. Carla noted that committee members should take particular note of pages 6 and 7 which outline the Responsibilities and Expectations of Advisory Committee Members, the Chair, Council Liaison and Staff.

4.3 Election of Chair

Rick Vanderkuip was nominated. Rick would prefer to not take on the role of Chair.

Sal Sorrento was nominated but due to Rules of Order (part 4.2 in the Simplified Meeting Procedures of the Handbook), members of Council cannot be appointed to Chair or Vice Chair.

David Warren nominated himself as Chair of the Committee.

David Waddington nominated himself in absentia as Vice Chair of the Committee

Motion: To defer the decision of Chair to the next meeting. Carried.

4.4 Review of Current City Projects

4.4.1 Parks Recreation and Culture Services – Business Planning

St. Catharines received \$700,000 from the Canada 150 Infrastructure Program.

4.4.1.1 West Park improvements

West Park will receive \$1,000,000 total; \$500,000 from the Canada 150 Infrastructure Program and \$500,000 from the City. The project includes: full service accessible washroom and maintenance building, splash pad, pathways, outdoor fitness equipment and sun shelter

4.4.1.2 Lakeside Park improvements

Lakeside Park will receive \$150,000 from the Canada 150 Infrastructure Program as part of a large improvement plan for the park. The plan includes: washroom renovations, accessibility upgrades, pavilion improvements, electrical system upgrades, playground replacement, pathways and beach accessibility mats.

4.4.1.3 Rotary Park improvements

Rotary Park will receive \$100,000 in upgrades total; \$50,000 from the Canada 150 Infrastructure Program, \$25,000 from the Rotary and \$25,000 from the City. The plan includes: a new picnic shelter, washroom facilities and parking lot improvements.

4.4.2 Welland Canal Fallen Workers Memorial Task Force

A monument will be unveiled next year commemorating the workers that lost their lives during the building of the various Welland Canals. Thorough research has been completed to insure that all the names of the workers are included.

4.4.3 Historical Services (St. Catharines Museum)

4.4.3.1 One Five Oh! Museum Exhibit

The exhibit will feature artifacts and stories from St. Catharines.

4.4.3.2 Confederation themed Spirit Walks (Cemetery Tours)

Spirit Walks will feature personalities related to Confederation 1867 buried in the Victoria Lawn Cemetery.

4.4.3.3 Doors Open

Doors Open St. Catharines is scheduled for the last weekend in June before Canada Day (June 24 or June 25 or both). It is a day or weekend where the 'doors are open' to the public free-of-charge to participating historic sites, institutions, businesses, structures etc that are not usually open to the public on a day-to-day basis.

It is a large community based event requiring participating sites, research, event coordination, marketing, promotion, volunteer recruitment etc. It was suggested that the Rotary Club and the University Women's Club could be contacted as potential partners.

Action Item: All members, please consider potential sites to include for the next meeting

4.4.4 Cultural Services

4.4.4.1 Culture Days

Cultural Services are currently in the early stages of planning and will provide updates.

Sal Sorrento was interested in contacting some of his contacts related to this event.

4.4.4.2 Centennial Park: Totem Pole Conservation

Cultural Services is considering a project related to the Totem pole, and will provide updates.

A Disk Golf Club has been cleaning up the park and is working on a master plan for the future use of the park. The Club is just finishing an 18 hole course.

It was mentioned that there are historic photos of events that have taken place in the park which illustrate the park's past vitality and importance to the community. There were formerly plaques representing the provinces on display and the Horticultural Society used to plant rose bushes in the Park. It was also mentioned that it would be nice to see the park revitalized through community based grassroots initiatives.

4.4.4.3 Other

The Public Arts Advisory Committee is looking at opportunities at City Hall and Centennial Park for exhibits/public art projects.

4.4.5 Other City Departments

Leofest is cancelled this year due to renovations/construction in the Lakeside Park. The status of Leofest 2017 is unknown.

Market Events – at this point, nothing specific has been considered other than regular programming

Canada Day Celebration in Rennie Park - nothing specific has been considered except for the possibility of Citizenship ceremonies. Rick Vanderkuip mentioned that the Rotary Club could be a potential partner for Citizenship ceremonies.

Performing Arts Centre – at this point, nothing specific has been considered other than regular programming.

4.5 Suggestions from the Public

4.5.1 Communities in Bloom:

This is a community beautification program for enhancing green spaces. A committee must be established of local citizens, one member of council, members of business and organizations interested in horticulture. It is a competition between communities with Bloom ratings given as boasting rights. Registration for 2016 is April 30, 2016, there are fees and regulations.

Karen Sabzali mentioned that she would bring this idea forward to the Green Committee as a potential project. Rick Vanderkuip to discuss possible partnerships with the Rotary Club.

4.5.2 Friends of Laura Secord:

Caroline McCormick, a descent of Laura Secord, created the Laura Secord Legacy Trail in 2013 to coincide with the 200th anniversary of Laura's famous walk to the John Decew's home to warn him of an impending US attack. Parts of the trail go through St. Catharines and she is hoping that we keep this in mind when planning various events.

4.5.3 Say it in Song

Pat Wotherspoon's dream is to have 2,017 voices come together in song. She was hoping that she/someone could lead this project and bring all the choral groups (amateur and profession) in Niagara to sing on Canada at the Meridian Centre.

4.5.4 Museum of Science and Technology – Stories of Canada’s innovation

This is an online initiative to showcase local Science and Technology successes. There has already been a lot of work done by St. Catharines Museum staff. Related entries from the *Know your Neighbours* column, could be uploaded to the site.

4.5.5 Rick Woodward – Pen Center

Rick Woodward, Marketing Director, would like the Committee to contact him regarding possible partnerships.

4.5.6 Ed Gould regarding 50th Anniversary of Centennial Park

Carla Mackie will refer Ed’s idea to Rebecca Cann.

4.5.7 From Community Relations Department of PRCS

A local community group, the Facer Street Community Beautification Committee would like to start a Food Festival on the Civic Holiday Weekend. The first festival will be August 1, 2016. Sal Sorrento said that he had already spoken to the group about the project and is very supportive of it.

4.6 Funding Sources

4.6.1 Niagara Community Foundation:

<http://niagaracommunityfoundation.org/charities/grant-programs>

Highlights:

NCF has funding for Canada 150th:

Eligible projects must be based in Canada, and must work towards the Fund’s objectives, to:

- ENCOURAGE participation in community activities and events to mark Canada's 150th anniversary of Confederation;
- INSPIRE a deeper understanding about the people, places and events that shape our country and our communities; or

- BUILD vibrant and healthy communities with the broadest possible engagement of all Canadians, including indigenous peoples; groups that reflect our cultural diversity; youth; and official language minorities.

Eligible projects are required to match the grant requested, through in-kind or cash contributions equal to the value of the grant, up to a maximum of \$15,000.

Deadlines: Sept- Oct 2016; Jan-Feb 2017

The Fund is based on grassroots leadership, and will take on a local focus and timeline in each community. For more information on the involvement of Niagara Community Foundation in the Community Fund for Canada's 150th, contact JoAnne Krick at 905-684-8688 x 23

4.6.2 Canada 150 – Community Driven Projects:

<https://www.magazinescanada.ca/uploads/File/Membership/Canada150FundGuideEN.pdf>

Highlights:

The Canada 150 Fund will support activities that

- Leave a legacy
- Provide community involvement which promotes a deeper understanding of Canada
- Recognizes and promotes exceptional Canadian people, places, achievements, event

Projects include: celebratory/commemorative/community building activities or events; sports or active living events; exhibits; plaques, monuments and permanent installations; interpretative programming and tours; documentary films; learning materials and activities; theatrical or musical performances; large scale artwork; New Canada 150 fairs and festivals; specific Canada 150 programming added to regular or recurrent festivals/fairs

No deadline date: however assessment and finalization can take up to 30 weeks.

Available grant/contribution (subject to audits) funding: 100% of eligible expenses (materials, supplies for the creation of exhibits, plaques monuments, promotional expenses, equipment rental, reasonable salaries, design fees, they do not fund admin costs in excess of 15% of project) See details.

Project proposal: requires detailed description of projects, budgets (including cashflow), timelines, indicators (how many visitors/how many pamphlets etc, promotion; and prior consultation Fund Staff is required before submitting proposal.

4.6.3 City of St. Catharines: budgets for projects in 2017 to be submitted by May 5, 2016

Carla Mackie mentioned that members should bring forward preliminary budgets for projects Committee members are interested in.

5. New Business

5.1 House of Commons Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage on Canada's 150th Anniversary of Confederation in 2017 submitted by Ed Wand

Quick Summary:

Overall Budget: \$210 million

Main themes: diversity and inclusion, reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, the environment and youth.

They are interested in projects that provide

- 1) legacies: artistic expression, touring Cdn performing groups, assisting with the completion of the trans Canada trail, digitizing the 150th celebrations; participation
- 2) participation: through social media, tourism marketing, initiatives to get people to explore Canada
- 3) museum support: museums projects, travelling exhibitions, promotion of museum exhibits, encouraging people to visit museums

Comment: The priorities in the letter from the Minister are important in order to get funding. Funding from the private sector will be an important part of funding our projects.

5.2 Event Suggestions from the Committee

- New Year's Eve Gala (Maycourt Club – potential partner)
- Canada Day Parade – David Warren interested in chairing a parade committee to hold a parade on Canada Day.

5.3 Other Comments/Considerations

1. Committee should contact various community organizations and encourage them to participate, and ask them if they already have events or projects planned.
 - Approach Laura Secord High School to see if they are interested in doing a musical production related to the 150th.
 - Display children's art
2. Loonie (30 years) anniversary in 2017; Toonie (20 years) in 2016.
3. What do we want St. Catharines to be known for? What brand or message do we want to rally around? What is unique to St. Catharines that we want to focus on? Comment: Folk Arts, Multiculturalism, the Canal.
4. How can we connect all the things that are happening?
5. Incorporating the canals? Is there a way to make connections with those working on the ships? Is there a way to interact with those who are on the canal? (Carla to look into whether or not this is possible)
6. Engage the Folk Arts Organization
7. **Action:** Based on the above information, for the next meeting, Committee members are to seriously consider which activities/events they would like to see in St. Catharines, and which activities/event they are interested in participating in. If it is a specific event requiring possible City/Community/Provincial/Federal

funding, a preliminary action plan including budget, potential partners will need to be provided/presented at the meeting in May. (City staff will provide support in grant writing.)

8. Meeting venue change:

Motion: Moved by Sal Sorrento for the committee to change venue to the Kiwanis Aquatics Centre moving forward. Carried.

6. Location and Date of next meeting

Kiwanis Aquatics Center: Thursday, May 5, 2016, 7:00 pm

7. Motion to Adjourn – 8:45 pm