

Cultural Sustainability Committee

Minutes

Special Meeting

Wednesday, September 06, 2017

Burgoyne Woods Room at 4:30pm

Attendance:

Councillor Carlos Garcia, Chair
Councillor Bruce Williamson
Councillor Joe Kushner
Brian Narhi (Co-Chair, Heritage Advisory Committee)
Robert DeWolfe (Co-Chair, Museum Advisory Committee)
David Webb (Chair, Heritage Permit Committee)
Robin McPherson (Co-Chair, Heritage Advisory Committee)
Peter Vietgen (Chair, Public Art Advisory Committee)
Jennifer Wallace (Chair, Arts and Culture Committee)
David Warren (Chair, Canada 150 Task Force)
Heather Salter (Director, Legal Services)

Regrets:

Brenda Zadoroznij, (Co-Chair, Museum Advisory Committee)

Staff guests:

Shelley Chemnitz (CAO)
Jeanette Pillitteri (Acting Commissioner, Corporate Services)
Phil Cristi (Director PRCS)
Maggie Riopelle (Commissioner's Office) presenting

Staff Liaisons:

Rebecca Cann ~ Public Art, Arts and Culture
Kathleen Powell ~ Museum Advisory
Julie Hughes ~ Pillar Committee, admin support

Regrets:

Kevin Blozowski ~ Heritage Advisory and Heritage Permit

1. **Chair, Councillor Garcia, called the meeting to order at 4:30m**
2. **Motion to approve the agenda**
That the CSC adopt the agenda

Moved: P Vietgen
Carried
3. **Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting**
 - n/a
4. **Presentations, M Riopelle (Commissioner's Office)**
 - Review of the Strategic Plan
5. **Business arising from the minutes**
 - n/a
6. **Business**
 - Discussion of specific language and action items highlighted in the *Cultural Sustainability ~ Revisions* handout
7. **Directions or Follow ups**
 - 9.2
 - Recommend an action plan to achieve updated /complete heritage registry
 - Requires appropriate resources to complete registry
 - Some discussion on what the registry should contain and if the current guidelines for declaring a site/building as heritage need to be reviewed/revised
 - 9.3
 - Suggestion to look at all opportunities/options for City owned heritage properties, not just art/culture
 - Consider plan to ensure all heritage buildings are viable, as in structural sound with the necessary updates/etc., and used to its full potential.
 - 10.1
 - A The word “leverage” becomes “foster”
 - “A” hub changes to “the” hub
 - Focus on facilities or organizations
 - Ensure no one is excluded such as the PAC user groups

10.4

- Add culture or creative specific wording to the current statement

8. Other business

- n/a

9. Next meeting: Thursday Nov 2
5-6pm
Burgoyne Woods Room

9. Motion to Adjourn

That the CSC be adjourned at 6pm

Moved: B Dewolfe

Carried

Memorandum

To: Cultural Sustainability Committee members
Cc: Shelley Chemnitz, CAO (Acting)
From: Maggie Riopelle, Executive Research Assistant
Date: August 28, 2017
Subject: Strategic Plan Update – Cultural Pillar

Background

In 2015, City Council approved the City's first 10-year Strategic Plan. At the time of its approval, Council and staff supported regular review of the plan to ensure it meets the priorities of Council and addresses today's circumstances.

As such, Councillors and senior staff were interviewed this year to provide input into the plan, provide comments and identify challenges as part of the review. Two challenges were specifically identified: interpretation the action items and measuring the progress in a consistent manner.

The next step, with the assistance of a facilitator, was to break into groups and start working through each action item within the pillars to clarify and update those actions, and in some cases remove actions from the plan.

Pillar Committees

With more than 40 action items, a lot of work has been completed thus far, however, there are still a number of action items that require more input and dialogue. It was recommended that the four pillar committees now become part of the process to assist with the outstanding action items requiring additional review.

Special Meeting

Each Pillar Committee is hosting a special meeting as one of the focus groups involved with the Strategic Plan review. To assist the Committees, this package includes:

- Original action items from the Strategic Plan
- Revisions made thus far to the pillar's action items
- Notes from the group sessions with the consultant on the action items

Once these special meetings have been held, and the material reviewed by our Senior Management Team, refined action items for the Strategic Plan will be presented to Council.

Your assistance in this process will help the City of St. Catharines to update its Strategic Plan, refocus on its priorities and ensure we continue to move forward in a positive direction.

ST. CATHARINES STRATEGIC PLAN

SUSTAINABILITY



2017 Plan Update



GOAL: Embrace our diversity and celebrate our heritage and history.

ACTIONS:

- Prioritize and implement recommendations from the City's Culture Plan.
- Support the city's cultural and built heritage by completing a heritage building catalogue in partnership with the St. Catharines Heritage Advisory Committee.
- Explore potential opportunities for City-owned heritage properties to provide incubation space for arts and culture enterprises, and to build creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship and community.

GOAL: Lead in cultural sustainability through increased support for the creative sector.

ACTIONS:

- Leverage relationships with Brock University's Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts, Rodman Hall, the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre and the Niagara Artists Centre to sustain Downtown St. Catharines as a leading centre for creativity and culture.
- Review planning guidelines and regulations to encourage live/work spaces in the downtown core.
- Support interactive digital media, cultural infrastructure and capacity-building in the arts sector to encourage job creation, support cultural tourism and engage residents in cultural experiences.
- Complete implementation and update the Creative Cluster Master Plan.

GOAL: Support cultural festivals and events that build civic pride, encourage local engagement and attract people to the community.

ACTIONS:

- Allocate funding and encourage strategies that will help to increase funding opportunities through community-led initiatives such as crowdfunding.

Legend



Recommended update
by Councillors/staff



Requires review by
Pillar Committee



Suggestion to
remove from Plan

CULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY - REVISIONS

GOAL: Embrace our diversity and celebrate our heritage and history.

ACTIONS:

- 9.1 Prioritize and implement recommendations from the City’s Culture Plan.
- 9.2 Support the City’s cultural and built heritage by updating the heritage registry in partnership with the St. Catharines Heritage Advisory Committee. G
- 9.3 Identify and pursue potential opportunities for City-owned heritage properties to provide incubator space for arts and culture enterprises, and to build creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship and community. G

GOAL: Lead in cultural sustainability through increased support of the private sector.

ACTIONS:

- 10.1 Leverage relationships with Brock University’s Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts, Rodman Hall, the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre and the Niagara Artists Centre to build downtown St. Catharines as a hub for creativity and culture. Note: need to clarify what does leverage mean to you?
- 10.2 Promote planning guidelines and regulations which support and encourage live/work spaces in the downtown core. Note: regulations exist, staff suggest promotion of opportunities may encourage these types of ventures – consider communications plan to improve public awareness. G
- 10.3 ~~Support interactive digital media, cultural infrastructure and capacity building in the arts sector to encourage job creation, support cultural tourism and engage residents in culture experiences.~~ Note: this is being done through existing programs and as such, it’s suggested to be removed.
- 10.4 Further enhance the development of the downtown through promotion of existing opportunities and exploration of new initiatives which support and spur investment in the City’s core. Note: only one item not completed from the Creative Cluster Master Plan (Civic square – which is an action item 5.6 under Social). Suggestion from staff: revamp statement to focus on continued downtown development which supports existing cultural sector and encourages private investment. G

GOAL: Support cultural festivals and events that build civic pride, encourage local engagement and attract people to the community.

ACTIONS:

- 11.1 Support and encourage strategies that will enhance civic pride and increase participation in and create opportunities for cultural festivals and events. Note: suggestion of staff to revamp statement. G

Cultural Sustainability: Summary of Action

Clarify

Update

Drop

No Change

Goal 9: Embrace our diversity, and celebrate our heritage and history

Actions Proposed Change

9.1 Implement the St. Catharines Culture Plan - *Need to identify actual action items, priorities and timelines*

9.2 Support the city's cultural and built heritage by completing a heritage building catalogue - *Includes all built heritage, not just heritage buildings and should include natural heritage*

9.3 Identify and pursue potential opportunities for city-owned heritage properties to provide incubation space for arts and culture enterprises and to build creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship and community

Goal 10: Be a leader in cultural sustainability through increased support for the creative sector

10.1 Leverage relationships with Brock University's Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts, Rodman Hall, the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre and the Niagara Artists Centre to sustain downtown St. Catharines as a leading centre for creativity and culture

10.2 Review planning guidelines and regulations to encourage live/work spaces in the downtown core

10.3 Support interactive digital media, cultural infrastructure and capacity-building in the arts sector to encourage job creation, support cultural tourism and engage residents in cultural experiences - *This is being done in existing programs so doesn't need to be in Strategic Plan*

10.4 Update the Creative Cluster Master Plan

Cultural Sustainability: Summary of Action (2)

Clarify

Update

Drop

No Change

Goal 11: Support cultural festivals and events that build civic pride, encourage local engagement and attract people to the community

Actions

Proposed Change

11.1

Allocate funding and encourage strategies that will help to increase funding opportunities through community-led initiatives such as crowdfunding - *Not clear on City's role*

Cultural Sustainability

Goal 9: Embrace our Diversity and Celebrate our Heritage and History

Action Item: 9.1	Implement the St. Catharines Culture Plan	Leads: PRCS
Proposed Action/Comments/Priority	Clarify. Need to identify actual action items, priorities and timelines Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taskforce to review recommendations to assist with prioritization • Implementation dependent on priorities and budget requirements • Priorities and timelines should be assigned to all outstanding action items in the Culture Plan • Plan needs more staff resources to implement. Potentially use more volunteer resources i.e. Arts Council. 	High
Potential Measures	Progress against identified priorities and recommendations within the Cultural Plan	

Action Item: 9.2	Support the city's cultural and built heritage by completing a heritage building catalogue	Leads: PBS
Proposed Action/Comments/Priority	Clarify. Includes all built heritage, not just heritage buildings and should include natural heritage Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update heritage registry and explore funding mechanisms to enhance built heritage - Target Q4 2017 • Current plan not achievable with existing resources • "Update" reports need to show more progress 	High
Potential Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of heritage catalogue: <i>[Timeline to be confirmed]</i> • Update of heritage registry - Q4 2017 • Identification of additional funding mechanisms - Q4 2017 	

Cultural Sustainability (2)

Goal 9: Embrace our Diversity and Celebrate our Heritage and History

Action Item: 9.3	Explore potential opportunities for city-owned heritage properties to provide incubation space for arts and culture enterprises and to build creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship and community	Leads: EcDev/ PRCS/PBS
Proposed Action/ Comments/Priority	<p>Clarify. Revise to read: “Identify and pursue potential opportunities for city-owned heritage properties to provide incubation space for arts and culture enterprises and to build creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship and community”</p> <p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to clarify the spaces and prioritize: Dalhousie House, Courthouse, Buchanan (?). • Action item that needs to precede looking for “opportunities” is actual financial investment in the properties so that challenges to using the space are overcome 	High
Potential Measures	Number of potential opportunities identified [<i>Timeline to be confirmed</i>]	

Cultural Sustainability (3)

Goal 10: Be a Leader in Cultural Sustainability through Increased Support of the Creative Sector

Action Item: 10.1	Leverage relationships with Brock University's Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts, Rodman Hall, the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre and the Niagara Artists Centre to sustain downtown St. Catharines as a leading centre for creativity and culture	Leads: PRCS/ EcDev/PBS
Proposed Action/ Comments/Priority	<p>Clarify. Potential wording changes/clarifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change "leading centre" to "hub" • Don't limit to identified organizations; should also include cultural advisory committees • Replace "sustain" with "build" • Need to clarify meaning of "leverage relationships" <p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linked to Economic Development Strategy, Creative Cluster Master Plan and Official Plan • Build upon partnerships, create linkages and support for the creative culture • Update Q3 2017 	Medium
Potential Measures	<i>To be determined in light of clarified definition</i>	

* 10.1 is dropped and addressed under action item 9.1

Cultural Sustainability (4)

Goal 10: Be a Leader in Cultural Sustainability through Increased Support of the Creative Sector

Action Item: 10.2	Review planning guidelines and regulations to encourage live/work spaces in the downtown core	Leads: EcDev/PBS
Proposed Action/Comments/Priority	No changes Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report to be submitted to Council on permitted uses and potential opportunities for live/work spaces in the downtown - Q4 2017 Should this be part of the affordable housing goals in the Housing Plan? 	Medium
Potential Measures	Number of live/work spaces created in the downtown [<i>Timeline to be confirmed</i>]	
Action Item: 10.3	Support interactive digital media, cultural infrastructure and capacity-building in the arts sector to encourage job creation, support cultural tourism and engage residents in cultural experiences	Leads: PRCS/ EcDev
Proposed Action/Comments/Priority	Drop. This is being done in existing programs so doesn't need to be in Strategic Plan	
Potential Measures		
Action Item: 10.4	Complete implementation and update the Creative Cluster Master Plan	Leads: PBS/EcDev
Proposed Action/Comments/Priority	Update. Revise to read: "Update the Creative Cluster Master Plan" Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most of this is implemented. Only outstanding item is the market square which is a separate action item Also need to get an update on the wine embassy 	Low
Potential Measures	Update of the Creative Cluster Master Plan: [<i>Timeline to be confirmed</i>]	

Cultural Sustainability (5)

Goal 11: Support Cultural Festivals and Events that Build Civic Pride, Encourage Engagement, & Attract People to the Community

Action Item: 11.1	Allocate funding and encourage strategies that will help to increase funding opportunities through community-led initiatives such as crowdfunding	Leads: PRCS
Proposed Action/ Comments/Priority	Drop. Not clear on City's role Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report to Council on crowdfunding. City will work with partners and community organizations to identify opportunities. Update 2017.• Should create a new action that aligns with a rethink of the goal	
Potential Measures		