

St. Catharines Heritage Advisory Committee

Minutes

Thursday, May 09, 2019

Burgoyne Woods Room at 4:30pm

Members:

Marty Mako (left at 5:09pm)
Brian Narhi
Mike Sullivan
Holly Washuta
Gail Benjafield
John Crawley

Absent:

Regrets:

Dennis Gannon
Robin McPherson
Councillor Carlos Garcia

Council:

Staff Liaison:

Chloe Richer, Heritage Planner, Planning and Building Services
Mallory Smith, Student Planner, Planning and Building Services

Public:

Sheila Massey (Friends of Malcolmson Eco-Park)

1. Call meeting to order (Chair)

Brian Narhi called the meeting to order at 4:32pm

2. Additions/Deletions to the agenda

3. Motion to approve the agenda

Moved by: John Crawley

“That the SCHAC ratify and adopt the agenda for this SCHAC meeting held on Thursday, May 9, 2019, copies having been previously distributed.”

CARRIED

4. Motion to adopt the Minutes of the previous meeting

Moved by: Holly Washuta

“That the SCHAC ratify and adopt the minutes of the SCHAC meetings held on Thursday, March 7, 2019, and have received the notes from the April 11, 2019 meeting, copies having been previously distributed.”

CARRIED

5. Presentations (Invited Guests)

n/a

6. Business arising from the Minutes

n/a

7. Business

7.1 Application for Designated Property Grant
29 Yates Street (Yates Street Heritage Conservation District)
Applicant: Nizam Ali, Rock Solid Investment Group

The applicant is seeking final approval for structural repairs (\$106,194.01 in contractor costs) after a site visit on March 21st, 2019.

The application was considered at the SCHAC meeting on February 14th, 2019 and March 7th, 2019 but was deferred to allow time for Heritage Planning staff and the SCHAC to confirm the status of the work. New supporting information was provided by the applicant (two letters provided by the firm WSP with an attached Construction Review Report and photographs) and it was determined at the Committee meeting on March 7th, 2019, that an exception could be made to the requirement to have the

application approved in principle prior to the commencement of works, under the conditions outlined in the Committee's motion. Heritage Planning staff and the SCHAC visited the property on March 21st, 2019.

In consideration of the substantial structural repairs being made, the Committee moved a final recommendation to support approval of the Designated Property Grant in the amount of \$5,000.

Moved by: Mike Sullivan

"That the SCHAC supports the Application for a Designated Property Grant for 29 Yates Street, as per the previous motion passed on March 7, 2019, on the condition that:

1. The grant does not fund the exterior masonry repairs, which do not conform with the Designated Property Grant Guidelines regarding mortar colour, texture and joint width and profile; and
2. That the grant be a maximum of \$5,000 for 2019."

CARRIED

7.2 Application for Designated Property Grant
95 Main Street (Port Dalhousie Heritage Conservation District)
Applicant: Janette Anderson, Owner

The applicant is seeking final approval following photographic documentation of masonry repairs (\$7,910.00 in contractor costs).

Masonry repairs included removing loose mortar from the chimney, repairing the chimney and repointing surrounding the entryway door. The original estimate of \$7,000 increased to \$7,910.00 due to HST. The Committee asked if the mortar used was the appropriate type and the invoice indicated that a lime based mortar matching the existing colour was used.

Moved by: Marty Mako

"That the SCHAC supports the Application for a Designated Property Grant for 95 Main Street and the grant amount be half the repair costs (\$3,955), to a maximum of \$5,000 for 2019."

CARRIED

7.3 Update on the Greenhouse at Malcolmson Eco-Park 325 Lakeshore Road City of St. Catharines, Owner

Heritage Planning staff to provide an update regarding two site visits to the greenhouse in Malcolmson Eco-Park, which is not listed or designated.

The SCHAC, City staff, the Friends of Malcolmson Eco-Park and Councillor Bill Phillips visited the property on April 5th. A follow-up site visit with Willowbank School of Restoration Arts, the SCHAC, the Friends of Malcolmson Eco-Park and City staff occurred on April 26th, 2019. The Friends are concerned that the greenhouse is falling into a state of disrepair and will become a risk for people to get injured. Willowbank School of Restoration Arts has indicated an interest in getting involved through a student project.

The Committee expressed interest in conserving the greenhouse, given its association with historic greenhouse manufacturer Lord & Burnham and with the Welland Canal. The Committee also recognized historical value relating to the 'seaway yard', as the greenhouse is the last remaining building from the yard and related foundational pieces are extant in the ground. The Committee expressed that they may want to move forward with designation, pending further research. The Committee expressed structural concerns in regards to a potential relocation of the greenhouse. The Committee questioned whether Lord & Burnham has been contacted regarding the greenhouse; they have not been contacted. The Committee expressed interest in conducting historical research on the property, and would be interested in having Willowbank students assist in a capacity that fits with their curriculum (e.g., a condition assessment or feasibility study).

It was noted that there had been a painting donated by former Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau in City Hall. A photograph of the painting can be found under "Mary Malcolmson" in the St. Catharines Public Library Special Collections room.

Moved by: Holly Washuta

“That the SCHAC undertake research on the potential Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (CHVI) of the greenhouse located in Malcomson Eco-Park, to be completed by September 2019.”

CARRIED

8. Updates from Sub-Committees

8.1 Designations, Plaquing and Ceremonies

None

8.2 Public Outreach and Education (POE)

Heritage Planning staff provided an update regarding the existing WordPress website. The City's Communications policy does not support branding on non-city websites. One Committee member suggested to shift the existing content into a new Heritage webpage operated by the City. The Committee expressed that they do not want to see the WordPress content lost.

Heritage Planning staff confirmed that a broader work plan, including Education and Outreach initiatives, will be discussed with the new Committee.

A Committee member indicated that they are not aware of how to find the lists of designated and non-designated ("listed) properties on the City's website. Heritage Planning staff clarified that this information can be found online on the City's website and the link will be shared with the Committee members.

Moved by: John Crawley

“That the SCHAC request that Heritage Planning staff research options for an improved Committee online presence and report back the findings.”

CARRIED

8.3 Research and Inventory (R & I)

Committee members were assigned research to complete for a heritage building catalogue (inventory). The work is approximately 25% complete, with 700 properties total (as of November 2018).

Heritage Planning staff shared a new property survey recording form to be used when considering listing a property. The Committee was interested in using this type of form in the future. The Committee wondered if members of the public would have access to the form. Next steps in listing properties on the Municipal Heritage Register will be discussed with the new Committee as part of their work plan.

Moved by: Gail Benjafield

“That the SCHAC has received the Property Survey Recording Form drafted by Heritage Planning staff, subject to modification, for future use in listing properties on the Municipal Heritage Register.”

CARRIED

8.4 Heritage Conservation Districts

None

9. Information/Correspondence

- Hard copies of digital photographs of structural work at 29 Yates Street *(included in April meeting package)*.
- Hard copies of digital photographs of masonry work at 95 Main Street.
- List of blog posts on the SCHAC WordPress website *(included in April meeting package)*.
- BME Church Update from Gail re: article in The Standard – heritage consultants have reached out regarding their services.

10. Date of next meeting

Thursday, June 13, 2019

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:40pm