

St. Catharines Heritage Advisory Committee

Minutes

Thursday, April 11, 2019

Burgoyne Woods Room at 4:30pm

Members:

Marty Mako (arrived at 4:40pm)
Brian Narhi
Mike Sullivan
Holly Washuta

Absent:

John Crawley

Regrets:

Gail Benjafield
Dennis Gannon
Robin McPherson

Council:

Carlos Garcia (left at 5:27pm)

Staff Liaison:

Chloe Richer, Heritage Planner, Planning and Building Services
Vincent Wen, Student Planner, Planning and Building Services

Public:

Andrew and Jennifer Humeniuk (re: John Brown Heritage Foundation)

1. Call meeting to order (Chair)

Brian Narhi called the meeting to order at 4:38pm

2. Additions/Deletions to the agenda

In the absence of quorum, Agenda Items 2.1, 7.1 and 7.2 were noted and received

2.1 Malcolmson Eco-Park Greenhouse Site Visit Update (325 Lakeshore Road)

The SCHAC, City staff and Councillor Bill Phillips visited the property on April 5th, 2019 to meet with the Friends of Malcolmson Eco-Park. The Friends are concerned that the greenhouse is falling into a state of disrepair and will become a risk for people to get injured.

The Committee expressed interest in conserving the greenhouse, given its association with historic greenhouse manufacturer Lord & Burnham and with the Welland Canal. In addition, Committee members expressed interest in greater enforcement and protective fencing to conserve the existing state of the greenhouse.

No motion could be made due to the absence of quorum.

3. Motion to approve the agenda

n/a

4. Motion to adopt the Minutes of the previous meeting

n/a

5. Presentations (Invited Guests)

Andrew and Jennifer Humeniuk, re: John Brown Heritage Foundation Update

6. Business arising from the Minutes

n/a

7. Business

7.1 John Brown Heritage Foundation Update
1317 Pelham Road
Owners: Andrew and Jennifer Humeniuk

The applicant is requesting to amend the designation by-law and provided an update to the Committee regarding the restoration of the Brown Homestead house.

Since 2015, maintenance has been done to the structure by the John Brown Heritage Foundation (JBHF), including a new drainage system to prevent basement flooding, upgraded electrical infrastructure as well as a sump pump system. The JBHF aims to have a strategic plan completed by the end of 2019.

A 1956 painting of the property was brought in by the JBHF and showcased the appearance of the property at the time and the landscaping that existed.

The JBHF is interested in adding a historical Eckhardt barn to the property. It is currently dismantled and stored in Markham. In addition, the JBHF want to conserve the existing Norton Cabin as an artifact. The JBHF plan to create an “Open Doors Centre” for public events promoting heritage. The building could host lecture series, education programs, public attractions and contain offices. The owners plan to incorporate materials and a design that will certify the building in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).

No motion could be made due to the absence of quorum. The applicants will return to a future SCHAC meeting.

7.2 Application for Designated Property Grant
29 Yates Street (Yates Street Heritage 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.

No motion could be made due to the absence of quorum.

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 would like to see the existing content remain online for the information to remain available.

Committee members were interested in promoting the Heritage Designated Property Grant program through a City webpage. The webpage could include heritage e-newsletters, blogs and meeting minutes. The Committee felt that a City-operated website would increase the readership and be a place to share and promote heritage for the City of St. Catharines. Additionally, a Committee member suggested to have a physical newsletter to continue promoting heritage in public spaces, both digitally and physically.

The broader work plan will be discussed with the new Committee.

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 requested that Committee members submit any existing materials by e-mail.

One Committee member suggested to have assistance from post-secondary students in completing the inventory. Candidates would be required to have a heritage background and high skill level to provide quality heritage documentation.

8.4 Heritage Districts

None

9. Information/Correspondence

- Digital copies of materials provided by the John Brown Heritage Foundation (<https://drive.google.com/open?id=11KbWSquZFclmPB5woif83s8Vj8t0En>).
- Hard copies of digital photographs of structural work at 29 Yates Street.
- List of blog posts on the SCHAC WordPress website.
- Supporting information for the Malcolmson Eco-Park Greenhouse (325 Lakeshore Road)

10. Date of next meeting

Thursday, May 09, 2019

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:59pm