

St. Catharines Heritage Advisory Committee

Minutes

Thursday, January 16, 2020

Atrium Room at 4:30pm

Members:

Gail Benjafield
Andrew Humeniuk
Brian Narhi
Robert Speck
Lorraine Giroux
Mark Hoerd
Justin Nicholls

Regrets:

Peter Wing

Council:

Councillor Carlos Garcia

Staff Liaison:

Chloe Richer, Heritage Planner, Planning and Building Services
Connor Wright, Student Planner, Planning and Building Services

1. Call meeting to order (Chair)

Brian Narhi called the meeting to order at 4:29pm

2. Recognition of Traditional Territories

3. Additions/Deletions to the agenda

None.

4. Motion to approve the agenda

Moved by: Lorraine Giroux

“That the SCHAC ratify and adopt the agenda for this SCHAC meeting held on Thursday, January 16, 2020, copies having been previously distributed.”

CARRIED

5. Motion to approve the Minutes of the previous meeting

Moved by: Gail Benjafield

“That the SCHAC approve the minutes of the SCHAC meeting held on Thursday, January 9, 2020; the minutes of the Public Outreach and Education Sub-Committee meeting held on Wednesday, January 8, 2020; and the minutes of the Research & Inventory Sub-Committee meeting held on Thursday, January 9, 2020, copies having been previously distributed.”

CARRIED

6. Presentations (Invited Guests)

None.

7. Business arising from the Minutes

8. Business

- 8.1** Research – Draft Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report, Welland House
26/30 Ontario Street
Brian Narhi, Chair, St. Catharines Heritage Advisory Committee
Presentation by Brian Narhi on the draft Cultural Heritage Evaluation
Report on the Welland House, 26/30 Ontario Street.

Brian Narhi presented the draft Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report on the Welland House. The Committee discussed minor revisions to the report. One member mentioned their interest in the historical or associative value of the property, such as notable people who may have stayed at the Welland House, as an area for further research. Additionally, the architect associated with the building’s late 1920s alterations is currently unknown and may be a notable one.

Mr. Narhi explained the rationale for limiting the title search to pre-1997, which is due to the Teranet fee. Chloe Richer will look into whether Teranet fees can be covered under the Committee’s budget.

Ms. Richer highlighted the need for the Sub-Committees to focus on identifying the most significant properties in the commercial core that may require protection in the near future. A Committee member proposed

establishing a working system to improve efficiencies in preparing evaluation reports in urgent situations.

The Committee discussed the status of the interior of the Welland House. A Committee member proposed that a public call-out be made by the City to assist in finding artifacts, such as ledgers, architectural plans, etc. related to the Welland House. Ms. Richer will see if this is possible via the City's Communications team.

The property was previously rated at a Priority 2. The Committee feels that Welland House is one of the most significant properties in the commercial core and as such, the evaluation may be inaccurate. The property will be evaluated a second time in the context of the new information contained in the Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report. Councillor Garcia reminded the Committee that that permission of the owners need not be granted for designations under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Moved by: Robert Speck

"That the SCHAC receive the draft Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report on Welland House, 26/30 Ontario Street, prepared by Brian Narhi, Mark Hoerdt and Andrew Humeniuk, and support the evaluators' recommendation to designate the property under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The SCHAC requests access to the interior of the structure to determine whether there are any existing interior architectural features worthy of protection as heritage attributes."

CARRIED

9. Updates from Sub-Committees

9.1 Designations, Plaquing and Ceremonies

None.

9.2 Public Outreach and Education (POE)

None.

9.3 Research and Inventory (R & I)

None.

10. Information/Correspondence

- Chloe Richer advised that the BME Church (92 Geneva Street) is hosting a Black History Month Open House on Saturday, February 8, 2020 from 10am to 4pm, with history talks at 11am and 2pm.

- Ms. Richer highlighted the City's "Remembering Neil Peart" survey and shared the link with the Committee. Councillor Garcia raised the need to discuss the proposed with Mr. Peart's family before a memorial is considered. The Committee discussed what type of memorial Mr. Peart may have been supportive of.

- Robert Speck declared a conflict of interest in the matter, as he was a personal friend of Mr. Peart's.

- Mr. Narhi alerted the Committee members to the Notice of By-law passage regarding the updated designation by-law for the John Brown House, 1317 Pelham Road.

- Ms. Benjafield raised a point of clarification regarding the anonymity of members of the public that attend meetings.

10. Date of next meeting

Thursday, February 13, 2020

11. Adjournment

Moved by: Mark Hoerd

"That the SCHAC meeting held on Thursday, January 16, 2020, be adjourned at 5:11pm."

CARRIED

Appendix A: Sub-Committee Minutes

Public Outreach & Education Sub-Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, January 08, 2020

Ante Room at 12:30pm

Members:

Brian Narhi
Gail Benjafield
Lorraine Giroux

Staff Liaison:

Chloe Richer, Heritage Planner, Planning and Building Services
Connor Wright, Student Planner, Planning and Building Services

Guests:

Steve Henschel, Corporate Communications Officer, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

1. Call meeting to order (Staff Liaison)

Chloe Richer called the meeting to order at 12:33pm

2. Recognition of Traditional Territories

3. Additions/Deletions to the agenda

3.1 Appointment of Chair

Moved by: Gail Benjafield

“That the POE Sub-Committee appoint Lorraine Giroux as Chair for the 2019 to 2022 term.”

CARRIED

3.2 Potential Heritage Projects

Steve Henschel suggested a number of additional heritage projects that Corporate Communications would be able to offer assistance with. Steve asked about heritage content that could be posted on the City's social media accounts. Suggestions included 'heritage property of the week' or 'fun facts.' Gail suggested Steve reuse content from the former heritage blog and find a way to post the content on the City's website. The St. Catharines Museum & Welland Canals Centre has a blog, which may offer the opportunity to partner on posts.

4. Motion to approve the agenda

Moved by: Lorraine Giroux

"That the POE Sub-Committee ratify and adopt the agenda for this POE Sub-Committee meeting held on Wednesday, January 8, 2020, copies having been previously distributed."

CARRIED

5. Declarations of Interest

6. Business

6.1 Review of existing walking tour brochures

The existing brochures do not meet AODA standards and need revisions. The Sub-Committee is to revise the content and Steve Henschel will conduct a review to improve the graphics.

6.2 Review of existing Designated Property Grant Guidelines and draft brochure

The City of St. Catharines 2020 budget, approved in December 2019, does not include funding for the Designated Property Grant Program. The Sub-Committee will work with Steve Henschel to improve future marketing of this program in anticipation of funding in 2021. Should funding for the program be included in the 2021 budget, the new brochures can be kept at the front Planning and Building Services counter to be given to interested parties.

6.3 Review of Significant Individuals List

The Sub-Committee suggested finding an improved location for the Significant Individuals List on the City of St. Catharines website, as it is currently difficult to locate. The Sub-Committee will continue to review the

existing Significant Individuals List and suggest additions to the list at the next Sub-Committee meeting.

6.4 Researching Your House Guide

The Sub-Committee examined the City of Toronto's guide on this topic as an excellent example. Chloe Richer suggested preparing a draft of a similar guide. Brian Narhi will work on a first draft, to be reviewed by Chloe Richer and Steve Henschel.

Moved by: Lorraine Giroux

"That the POE Sub-Committee begin drafting a Researching Your House Guide, with the first draft prepared by Brian Narhi."

CARRIED

6.5 Doors Open 2021

The St. Catharines Museum & Welland Canals Centre's funding request for Doors Open 2021 was approved in December 2019 through the 2020 budget. The Sub-Committee expressed interest in assisting the Museum with Doors Open 2021, which is a complex event to organize. Chloe Richer will reach out to the Museum regarding how the Sub-Committee may be of assistance.

Moved by: Lorraine Giroux

"That the POE Sub-Committee explore options for assisting the St. Catharines Museum & Welland Canals Centre with Doors Open 2021."

CARRIED

7. Date of next meeting

Wednesday February 12, 2020

8. Information/Correspondence

- Gail Benjafeld requested that Steve Henschel confirm protocol for speaking with the media. Mr. Henschel advised that the SCHAC should appoint a spokesperson to speak with the media and that the other Committee members may speak to the media as private citizens.

- Chloe Richer advised that the City of St. Catharines 2020 budget, approved in December 2019, does not include funding for a Downtown St. Catharines Heritage Conservation District Study.
- Gail shared that she will no longer be able to attend the monthly or by-monthly Sub-Committee meetings on Wednesdays at 12:30 pm for personal reasons, but would still like to continue assisting with the projects in her own time.

9. Motion to Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:32pm

Research & Inventory Sub-Committee

Minutes

Thursday, January 09, 2020

Burgoyne Woods Room at 3:30pm

Members:

Lorraine Giroux
Mark Hoerd
Andrew Humeniuk
Brian Narhi
Robert Speck

Staff Liaison:

Chloe Richer, Heritage Planner, Planning and Building Services
Connor Wright, Student Planner, Planning and Building Services

1. Call meeting to order (Chair)

Mark Hoerd called the meeting to order at 3:37pm

2. Recognition of Traditional Territories

3. Additions/Deletions to the agenda

4. Motion to approve the agenda

Moved by: Robert Speck

“That the RI Sub-Committee ratify and adopt the agenda for this RI Sub-Committee meeting held on Thursday, January 9, 2020, copies having been previously distributed.”

CARRIED

5. Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting

Moved by: Brian Narhi

“That the Minutes from the R&I Sub-Committee meeting of December 12, 2019, be approved.”

CARRIED

6. Declarations of Interest

7. Business

7.1 Review and update of the Heritage Resource Inventory

Chloe Richer presented the 2020 Heritage Resource Inventory update. The update included 5 new properties recommended for listing on the Municipal Heritage Register, and one not recommended for any form of protection as the dwelling has been approved for demolition. The Sub-Committee members provided further information on the rationale behind their recommendations to list the five properties and discussion occurred (e.g., regarding the meaning of “trend”).

The Sub-Committee also discussed the main challenges to the research and potential solutions. One member highlighted the genealogy (historical/associative value) component. Another highlighted the architectural style identification. One member suggested dedicating the next Sub-Committee meeting to a tutorial led by Brian Narhi on conducting research using ONLand and other resources. Ms. Richer will also provide training on architectural styles. Additionally, Mr. Narhi could lead another training session at the St. Catharines Public Library.

Members discussed the potential need to focus on listing or designating buildings constructed post-1875 if there is strong concern (e.g., demolition by neglect).

Mr. Narhi suggested if a member does not feel comfortable with doing historical research, they could serve as a site photographer. Members can email Ms. Richer if they wish to take on this role. Another potential division of work suggested is that members who are less experienced with research and evaluation can focus on the preliminary work before sharing their work with more experienced members to complete the research.

Moved by: Mark Hoerd

“That the R&I Sub-Committee receive the Heritage Resource Inventory update and support the recommendations on listing or designating the properties included in the presentation, pending the evaluation sheets.”

CARRIED

7. Date of next meeting

Thursday, February 13, 2020

8. Motion to Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:25pm