



City of St. Catharines

Planning and Development Services
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**ST. CATHARINES HERITAGE COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Meeting of Thursday, March 14, 2013

PRESENT: Evan Acs
Gail Benjafield
John Haynes
Calvin Jessome
Chris Loat
Marty Mako
Brian Narhi
Robin McPherson

STAFF: Sara Epp, Planning and Development Services
Britney Williamson, Planning and Development Services

REGRETS: John Bacher
Heather Foss
Dennis Gannon
Mathew Siscoe, Councillor

ABSENT: Kristen Ernesaks

PUBLIC: Tisha Polocko, St. Catharines Downtown Association

1. CALL TO ORDER

Brian Narhi took the chair and called the meeting to order in Committee Room 1 at 5:02 p.m.

2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

2.1 Meeting of the SCHC, February 14, 2013

Moved by: Chris Loat
Seconded by: Evan Acs

"That the SCHC ratify and adopt the minutes, as revised, of the SCHC meeting held Thursday, February 14, 2013, copies having been previously distributed."

CARRIED

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 Loan of Model Ship (Library Display)

Britney Williamson has contacted the Welland Canals Museum regarding the loan of a model ship for the Committee's museum display and will be submitting a loan request form this week. Calvin Jessome volunteered to contact the museum and confirm the loan of the model ship. John Haynes also contacted the museum about additional items that can be used for the library display in June. The loan form that Britney is submitting will cover these items as well.

3.2 Power Glen Entry Sign

Britney provided the Committee with revised options for the Power Glen entry sign, based on feedback received from the Committee. Britney informed the Committee that the residents of Power Glen preferred the sign that did not include the wave detail. The Committee discussed the revised options and the benefits of including a date of establishment on the sign.

It was then,

Moved by: Chris Loat

Seconded by: Robin McPherson

"That the design without the wave detail, using the street sign font, be approved for the Power Glen entry sign."

CARRIED

And further,

Moved by: Chris Loat

Seconded by: Robin McPherson

"That the date be included on the Power Glen entry sign as 'est. ca. 1854'."

CARRIED

4. MATTERS REFERRED FROM COUNCIL

N/A

5. DELEGATIONS

5.1 Tisha Polocko, Downtown Association

Recognition Plaques for Non-designated Historical Buildings (Continuation of New Business discussion from February)

Britney Williamson provided a brief background on the potential opportunity to create recognition plaques for non-designated historical buildings. In particular, she informed the Committee that plaquing non-designated properties does not conflict with the City's plaquing policy for designated properties, and would be an opportunity to recognize the heritage value of non-designated properties throughout the city. The Committee was shown an example of a framed history provided by Heather Foss for possible layout.

As a pilot project, the committee is considering providing framed histories that could be put on display inside commercial buildings throughout the downtown, pending the permission of the business. Tisha Polocko will contact business owners to determine level of interest, and will provide the information to the Committee for budget consideration.

Brian Narhi noted that these plaques would allow the Committee to inform the public and business owners of the heritage value of non-designated properties and could lead to an interest in designation.

6. BUSINESS

6.1 Heritage Resource Inventory

Britney informed the Committee that Janet Curtis has resigned and that the vacancy will be advertised by the Clerks Department shortly. Janet has provided the research she completed to date, which includes architectural descriptions and photos for 508 of the 690 properties on the inventory. 244 properties still require architectural descriptions and photos, and all 690 properties require historical summaries.

Britney advised that Planning Staff will work to digitize the hard copy list of properties into an Access database. Britney recommended that the Research Subcommittee be revived to complete the remaining research and finalize this project. Brian, Britney, Calvin and Evan volunteered to be on the subcommittee, which will meet monthly on the Wednesday before the regularly scheduled heritage meeting at 5:15 pm. Britney will inform the members of the subcommittee as to the location of the meeting.

6.2 Reports from Sub-Committees

6.2.1 Designations, Plaquing and Ceremonies

N/A

6.2.2 Public Outreach and Education (POE) (continuation of discussion from February)

- **Possible partnership with Culture (Facebook content)**

Britney has contacted Cultural Services to inquire about posting heritage contact on their Facebook page, and will report back at the April meeting with an update.

- **Blogging**

In addition to the partnership with Culture, Robin McPherson will create a blog for the Committee. In order to be linked to the City's website, the City's blog interface would need to be used and the content included in the blog would be limited. To maintain flexibility, the Wordpress interface will be used instead and the blog will not be linked to the City's website. The blog will be optimized for search content and comments will be screened by Committee members before they are posted.

Robin and Evan volunteered to monitor the blog and screen all content. Each member of the Committee will be responsible for writing at least one post, which should focus on heritage education, promotion and awareness. Britney volunteered to prepare an initial post from promote the heritage program and incentives. The domain name of "St. Catharines Heritage" was discussed, and Britney advised that the domain rights could be purchased using the Committee's membership budget. Robin will provide a demonstration of the interface and blogging process at the April meeting.

6.2.3 Design and Grants Review

6.2.3.1 Heritage Permit Application

Address: 14 Power Glen

Proposal: To construct a pool cabana (accessory structure)

Applicant: Kathryn McCleary

File No.: 10.64.176B

Application is made for a heritage permit to construct a 16' x 20' pool cabana at the rear of the lot, to be located entirely behind the existing house. The Committee discussed the design and location of the pool cabana noting that it will not be visible from the street, and that the design complements the materials and style of the existing house.

It was then,

Moved by: Gail Benjafield

Seconded by: Evan Acs

“That the heritage permit to construct a pool cabana at 14 Power Glen be approved.”

CARRIED

6.2.4 Heritage Districts

N/A

6.2.5 War of 1812 Bicentennial

Brian Narhi provided an update on the last meeting of the War of 1812 Bicentennial Committee. In particular, Brian discussed an upcoming allies art project, the planning of a lacrosse game and a request for an 1812 cricket match. There have also been discussions of holding another group of Spirit Walks at Victoria Lawn Cemetery in September. Brian advised that Patrick Little made a presentation about the Tall Ships set to dock in Port Dalhousie for the Canada Day weekend, and Brian passed around a hardcopy of Patrick's PowerPoint presentation. Britney will contact Patrick for a digital copy of the PowerPoint and will distribute it to the Committee.

The location for the Laura Secord plaque was also discussed and the Bicentennial Committee is hoping to have it unveiled at the walk in June; however, the timeframe on meeting this deadline is tight. Brian also informed the Committee that his book, *Loyal and Patriotic*, has been printed and will be available to purchase at the museum.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Signage on former W. J. Robertson Public School (85 Church Street)

The Folk Arts Centre has applied to install temporary signage on the former W.J. Robertson Public school (85 Church Street). Two signs will be displayed, which combined will read “Niagara Folk Arts Multicultural Centre.” The signage, which is proposed for the front and rear facades, will be affixed using a non-invasive method into the mortar. Although temporary signage does not require formal heritage permit approval, sign permits are required.

It was then,

Moved by: Chris Loat

Seconded by: Evan Acs

“That the St. Catharines Heritage Committee is not opposed to the proposed temporary signage at the Folk Arts Centre (85 Church Street).”

CARRIED

7.2 Subcommittee Membership

The subcommittees list was last reviewed nearly a year ago. Britney provided a list of all the subcommittees and their membership to the Committee, and requested that the Committee advise whether their subcommittee interests have changed at the April meeting.

8. INFORMATION / CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Summary of Insurance Coverage for Committees of Council, 2013

Britney provided the Committee with a summary of insurance coverage for Committees of Council for information purposes.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Chris Loat

There being no further items of business, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

CARRIED

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 11, 2013.

Committee members should advise Britney Williamson at 905-688-5601 (Extension 1704) or brwilliamson@stcatharines.ca if they are unable to attend the meeting or did not receive the item(s) noted in the agenda.

Minutes prepared by:
Sara Epp
Student Planner
Planning and Development Services