



City of St. Catharines

Planning and Development Services
PO Box 3012, 50 Church Street
St. Catharines, ON L2R 7C2

Phone: 905-688-5600
Fax: 905-688-5873
TTY: 905-688-4TTY (4889)

**ST. CATHARINES HERITAGE COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Meeting of Thursday, April 11, 2013

PRESENT: Evan Acs
John Bacher
Heather Foss
Dennis Gannon
John Haynes
Marty Mako
Brian Narhi
Robin McPherson

STAFF: John Hall, Tourism Services
Kim Payne, Tourism Services
Britney Williamson, Planning and Development Services

COUNCIL: Mathew Siscoe, Councillor

REGRETS: Gail Benjafield
Calvin Jessome
Chris Loat

ABSENT: Kristen Ernesaks

1. CALL TO ORDER

Robin McPherson took the chair and called the meeting to order in Committee Room 1 at 5:05 p.m.

2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

2.1 Meeting of the SCHC, April 11, 2013

Moved by: Evan Acs
Seconded by: John Haynes

“That the SCHC ratify and adopt the minutes of the SCHC meeting held Thursday, March 14, 2013, copies having been previously distributed.”

CARRIED

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 Subcommittee Membership List

Copies of the subcommittee membership list were distributed with the agenda packages, and members were requested to review the lists prior to the meeting. Britney Williamson asked if there were any members that wanted to update their interests in subcommittees. The following revisions were made:

- Janet Curtis has been removed from the membership
- Marty Mako and Brian Narhi have been added to the Public Outreach and Education subcommittee
- The Heritage Resource Inventory Subcommittee has been re-established. Members include Evan Acs, Dennis Gannon, Calvin Jessome, Brian Narhi and Britney Williamson.
- The Design and Grants Review subcommittee has been terminated, as the committee as a whole has been reviewing applications for DPGs. The following initiatives have been added to the Public Outreach and Education subcommittee:
 - Develop and maintain resource list of experienced trades people and craftsman who can provide goods and services for the restoration of heritage properties;
 - Develop “How To” guides for heritage home and building owners.

4. MATTERS REFERRED FROM COUNCIL

There were no matters referred from Council.

5. DELEGATIONS

5.1 Greg Willis, Resident

RE: Naming of the Lake and Queen Streets Parkette to “Hannelore Headley Chess Park”

Councillor Siscoe provided a letter on behalf of Mr. Willis, who was unable to attend the meeting. The letter outlined the importance of Hannelore Headley to the community, and proposes to rename the parkette at the corner of Lake and Queen Streets to the “Hannelore Headley Chess Park”. There was some discussion about criteria and prioritization for renaming requests. Some members noted that Ms. Headley is included on the list of significant individuals, which is used as a street naming resource.

It was then,

Moved by: Councillor Siscoe
Seconded by: John Bacher

“That the SCHC endorses the renaming of the parkette at the corner of Queen and Lake Streets to the ‘Hannelore Headley Chess Park’.”

CARRIED

**5.2 Kim Payne and John Hall, Tourism Services
RE: Heritage Walking Tour and GPS Application**

Tourism Services (TS) is currently working to update existing tourism brochures, include the heritage walking brochures that were originally published by Planning Services. Kim Payne explained that past TS students have completed some work, but there are gaps that need to be filled in. Kim provided a draft of the Heritage Trail Work Plan (attached), with the end goal being a new brochure(s) augmented by a GPS application. Kim is seeking input from the SCHC on content (heritage sites, histories, etc...) and format (one integrated document vs separate brochures). Kim suggested that one member of the SCHC sit on a steering committee managed by TS, to assist with data verification and new research. There may be an opportunity for the SCHC to partner with TS if the GPS application becomes commercialized, for profit sharing, as well. Kim then opened the floor to the SCHC for feedback. Comments pertained to timelines, valuation, tracking and tie in to social media. Kim advised that a product could be printed as early as the end of the year, but notes that there is a lot of work required before that point. Completion of the brochure and application for 2014 is more realistic.

It was then,

Moved by: Heather Foss
Seconded by: John Haynes

“That the SCHC endorses the idea of updating the heritage brochures, working towards a mobile application, in partnership with Tourism Services; and,

That the SCHC agrees to assist Tourism Services with data verification and historical research as needed.”

CARRIED

Robin McPherson volunteered to assist on the steering committee.

6. BUSINESS

6.1. Participation in 2013 Binational Doors Open Niagara OR “Closed Doors” Walking Tour

The first call for the 2013 Binational Doors Open Niagara sites was circulated to the committee on behalf of the Binational Alliance. The theme is “20th Century Neighbourhoods of Niagara”. Dennis Gannon noted that there was talk of a mid-century exhibit at Rodman Hall, which would tie into the Doors Open sites. Dennis volunteered to forward the call for sites onto Harold Enslin in this regard. The committee agreed that because of hesitation from property owners in previous years, they would refrain from nominating sites for the 2013 event.

7. Reports from Sub-Committees

7.1. Designations, Plaquing and Ceremonies

Brian Narhi noted that the Hostetter ceremony will be rescheduled, and suggested June 8/9 or June 15/16 as preliminary dates. However, these dates may pose problems for securing re-enactors due to conflicts with 1812 events. Brian will keep the committee updated in this regard.

7.2. Public Outreach and Education (POE)

7.2.1. Blog Update

Robin McPherson provided a demonstration of the new blog (www.stcatharinesheritage.com). The interface allows 2 large feature stories and 5 sub-stories. All comments on the blog will be monitored by the committee before being posted. The committee inquired about linking the blog to the City’s website, including a specific link to a gallery of heritage photos, optimizing the blog for search, and expectations from committee members for content. The City’s social media policy requires that the City’s blog interface be used, which limits the type of content that can be posted. External blogs cannot be linked to the City’s website. Committee members will be expected to provide 2 blogs per year, to achieve at least 2 posts per month from the committee as a whole. Councillor Siscoe noted that the “yesterday and today” columns from the Standard could be repurposed and posts for additional content, and Dennis Gannon will inquire with the Standard about his rights to the articles. Robin noted that the Public Outreach and Education subcommittee should meet to establish criteria for content moving forward.

7.2.2. Culture Facebook Page – Content

Britney Williamson advised that Cultural Services is keen to post heritage content on the Culture Facebook page. Britney suggested that we could repurpose some of the blog content in this regard. Committee members are encouraged to contact Britney will additional ideas for posting on Facebook.

7.3. Design and Grants Review

N/A

7.4. Heritage Districts

N/A

7.5. War of 1812 Bicentennial

Brian Narhi noted that the 1812 museum exhibit opened this past weekend, and a subsequent exhibit will be opening at Brock in September. The last 1812 meeting was held on Monday, April 8, and several publications will follow from the committee. Events are scheduled throughout May, June and July.

8. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

9. INFORMATION / CORRESPONDENCE

- Subcommittee Membership List (Item 3.1)
- Heritage Trail Work Plan (Item 5.2)

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

CARRIED

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 9, 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:
Britney Williamson
Planning Services