

Township of Woolwich Heritage Committee Minutes

March 10, 2021 meeting

Virtual – Zoom Meeting

From 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Chair: Bonnie Bryant

Attended – Hans Pottkamper, Laurie Breed, Marg Drexler, Terry Rohr, Jeremy Vink, Mark Pomponi, Mayor Shantz, Rino Dal Bello

Call to Order

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest: None

Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes from meeting of February 10, 2020.

Motioned by Terry, Seconded by Hans. Passed

Peel Street Bridge

Staff provided an update on the Council decision to keep the bridge and make it for pedestrian use only.

Committee Challenges

Discussion took place on the committee and the challenges.

The Committee feel that Council has no heritage strategy going forward for the Township. The Committee feel that Council do not listen to them.

Committee was asking that a Councillor be on the committee. Mayor Shantz indicated that she would ask Council to have a Councillor on the committee.

Plaques

Discussion took place on installing the heritage plaques, members would like to install the plaques. Township insurance does not cover the committee members. Members would like to make sure the plaques are mounted to the building and not left with the homeowners since the homeowner may not install it.

One property in West Montrose has changed ownership and the new owners do not want to have the plaque installed or any recognition.

Mark Pomponi offered to install the plaques since he indicated it is not that difficult to install.

Mark Pomponi will check with the Townships insurance provider and determine if committee members are covered. An email was sent to the members updating them on this issue.

Elmira Library

Discussion took place on the designation of the Elmira Library. Discussion on the process of getting the property designated.

Membership Recruitment

Committee would like to go out and recruit new member for the committee. Looking for guidance on how the Township will help the committee in getting new members.

Heritage and Economic Development

Members would like to tie heritage to economic development, specifically tourism. Look at St. Jacobs and see what they have done, it was one person. The Region has done tours for tourism in the area.

Mark indicated that staff resources are minimal since there are only a couple of staff in the department. Members of the committee can go out and look for opportunities for tourism, members can also do the assessment on the buildings. Mark indicated that staff would rely on the members to get some of the work done.

Tourism

Discussion on tourism for the Township and how to get people to visit here and then buy items here. The Region has tours. The Township website does have information for tours, including maps for people to use.

Membership Recruitment

There would be word of mouth from the committee, Marg indicated that she could advertise in the Woolwich Healthy communities for new members.

Township will advertise on the website for recruiting new members. The members can use word of mouth for new members.

Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference (TOR) to be updated by staff with members input, to make sure the committee can function and operate properly. Members can suggest what the number of members should be on the committee so that quorum can be achieved. A staff report can be prepared indicating the changes to the TOR and presented to Council.

Bonnie suggested that at the next meeting each member come with ideas on:

- Suggested changes to the TOR
- How to promote the committee
- How to move forward

How to integrate the committee with other departments of the Township. The committee could be working with other departments that can help.

Bonnie asked if we cannot get any new members, what would happen to the committee. Mark indicated that if one member does not attend the meeting, then there is not quorum and the committee cannot take formal minutes, and only discussions can take place. There would be not motions put forward since there are not enough members.

Mayor Shantz had to leave the meeting.

Bonnie indicated that the committee has homework for the next meeting.

Ghost Community Signs

Terry mentioned about the Ghost community signage for each community. Bonnie would find out through the Region about the signs.

West Montrose Cultural Heritage Landscape

Marg was looking for an update on the sign for the West Montrose CHL, someone should talk to Laurie and see what was done for the sign. There was a design for the CHL by Della. Bonnie to check into the sign for the CHL.

Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn

Motion from Hans, second by Terry