

Township of Woolwich Heritage Committee Minutes

February 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,
Rino Dal Bello (staff)

Call to Order at 5:10 p.m.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest: None

Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes from meeting of January 13, 2021 There was a change to the minutes. *"Marg sent a letter to the Hamilton Diocese with regards to historical designation and the Church is not interested in pursuing a historical designation."* The change has been noted and is reflected in the minutes.

Motioned by Hans, Seconded by Marg. Passed

St. Boniface Church

Mary Ann Stroh is going to send a letter to Monsignor Crutch. Historical Society sent Bonnie an email and will be sending a letter to Bonnie. Marg to follow up with Knights of Columbus about a letter to be provided to Bonnie from Knights of Columbus in support of Designating the St. Boniface Church and the lands. Once all the letters are received Bonnie will forward them to the committee members and staff. Committee needs letters of support from others since the Diocese is not in support of designation. Father Hope is the administrator of the Church and he can be approached and see where he stands.

Peel Street Bridge

Laurie has some questions on the heritage registry and the list of potential properties to be designated. Township list has never been to Council to be recognised. Staff to provide the excel sheet that has all the potential buildings to be of interest. Committee feel that Council has no heritage strategy going forward for the Township and the Peel Street Bridge has been studied for many years and should be designated. Committee presented to Council on designating the Peel Street Bridge, committee is frustrated that Council does not care about the heritage of the Township. The committee is feeling that they are not being heard. The Region would like to have these bridges saved and designated. It raises the question what will be designated, since there is no support from Council. It feels that the committee is a thorn in their side and if we are ignored, we will go away. There is an economic benefit to the Township. Look at City of Cambridge, tourism and film studio that is being done in this City. Look at the covered bridge and the amount tourism that it brings to the Township. Committee can determine the benefits and present them to Council. Committee discussed going to Council

meeting and make a second presentation on saving the bridge. The committee would present to Council on March 23rd – Laurie would do the presentation. Committee would call City of Cambridge heritage committee and ask about their procedures.

Elmira Library

Dan Kennaley was to prepare a report for the Elmira Library in April 2018 to start the process of designation. Members do not have the report and staff could not find a report that was started for the Elmira Library.

New Business – Priority List

Placing the items in a priority list. Discussion on preparing Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA) are costing around \$3000-\$5000. The committee did not realize these studies would cost this much money since the committee's budget is only \$4000.

The list of priority is:

1. St. Boniface Church, manse, and cemetery
2. Peel Street Bridge
3. Elmira Library
4. Enoch Martin House in St. Jacobs
5. Maryhill CHL
6. 1805 Sawmill Road (Old Mill), Conestogo

Robert Shipley called Bonnie on 1805 Sawmill Road - Old Mill and would like the new owners to designate the building. It was asked if Professor Shipley could prepare an HIA and have it approved as part of the process. It was noted that yes, he could prepare a report that would be reviewed by staff and the committee.

Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn Terry seconded by Hans