

Township of Woolwich Heritage Committee Minutes

February 9, 2022
Virtual – Zoom Meeting
From 5:00 to 6:11 p.m.

Meeting Chair: Councillor Patrick Merlihan (Chair)

Attended: Bonnie Bryant (Co-Chair)
Emily Brown
Kim Hodgson
Pat Stortz

Staff Present: David Gundrum, Planner
Ilidia Sa Melo, Deputy Clerk*
Robyn Koutrouliotis, Administrative Assistant

Regrets: Hans Pottkamper
Ingrid Pottkamper
Marg Drexler

CALL TO ORDER at 5:00 P.M.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Ilidia Sa Melo, Deputy Clerk, provided the Committee with an overview of Land Acknowledgements, including background and best practices.

The Committee discussed the addition of historical information to the Land Acknowledgement for future Committee meetings. Chair Patrick Merlihan noted the option to invite all Township Committees and Boards to future Land Acknowledgement training with Council.

Action: I. Sa Melo will circulate the Land Acknowledgement presentation to the Committee.

Action: Co-Chair Bonnie Bryant and Kim Hodgson will bring an updated Land Acknowledgement referencing local historical information to a future meeting.

Action: The Committee will circulate the Land Acknowledgement with heritage additions to Council for information.

Action: I. Sa Melo will provide Chair Merlihan with contact information for Clarence Cachagee of Crow Shield Lodge.

Action: Chair Merlihan will circulate relevant training opportunities for Council to the Committee as they become available.

Historical Photographs

I. Sa Melo provided an update on efforts to locate the historical photographs.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Co-Chair Bryant

Seconded by K. Hodgson

That the minutes of the Heritage Committee meeting on January 12, 2022 be adopted as presented.

...Carried.

Online Presence

I. Sa Melo noted Rae Ann Bauman, Executive Officer/Corporate Communications, will provide an overview of changes made to the Heritage sections of the website at a future meeting.

Action: The Committee requested R. Bauman liaise with Pat Stortz and K. Hodgson in advance of the meeting.

** I. Sa Melo left the meeting*

NEW BUSINESS

Bridge Project Updates

West Montrose Bridge Restoration

David Gundrum, Planner, noted there have been no updates since the last meeting.

Middlebrook Bridge

D. Gundrum noted there have been no updates since the last meeting.

Peel Street Bridge Pedestrian Conversion

D. Gundrum noted a concept will be reviewed between late February and early March 2022; Engineering Services staff will provide an update to the Committee at a future meeting.

Beitz Bridge (Greenhouse Road EA)

D. Gundrum noted the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) has been completed; staff are seeking comments at this stage.

D. Gundrum noted the bridge does not have a heritage designation. The Committee discussed the addition of a marker or heritage plaque to the bridge. D. Gundrum noted this process would require a Council approval; the Committee opted to move forward at a later date.

The Committee will provide comment on the Public Consultation Centre (PCC) when new information is available.

Action: The Committee requested D. Gundrum circulate any new information regarding the PCC to the Committee as it becomes available.

Introductory Heritage Training: Township Planning Staff

D. Gundrum provided the Committee with a primer on the role of Heritage Committees in Ontario heritage planning.

The Committee discussed scheduling a future tour of the library system's heritage resources. The Committee also discussed inviting Council and relevant senior staff to a presentation of the cultural and economic value of heritage preservation and related initiatives.

Action: The Committee discussed the creation of a vision statement to highlight relevant focus areas prior to presenting to Council.

Ontario Land Registry

D. Gundrum provided the Committee with an overview of the capabilities of the Province's Land Registry property records portal; D. Gundrum noted onland.ca is a pay-per-use resource.

Action: The Committee requested D. Gundrum determine whether the Township has access to membership- or subscription-based resources dedicated to heritage.

Heritage Week Discussion

The Committee discussed implementing daily social media promotion on all Township channels during Ontario Heritage Week.

Action: P. Stortz and K. Hodgson will provide D. Gundrum with content for the social media posts.

Action: D. Gundrum will coordinate with R. Bauman once the information is available.

Heritage Registry Review

K. Hodgson referenced a book of sketches and paintings of heritage properties in Conestogo, produced by local artist, as a potential resource for properties to add to the Heritage Registry. The Committee discussed a six-month timeline to update the Registry once other projects have been completed.

Regional HPAC Updates

Co-Chair Bryant will provide updates from the February 10th Region's Heritage Planning Advisory Committee (HPAC) meeting at a future meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

North Waterloo ACO/University of Waterloo: Review of Region-Wide Heritage Practices

Co-Chair Bryant outlined a request received from the North Waterloo ACO and the University of Waterloo regarding a study on heritage practices in the Region, the creation of a Region-wide

database of heritage properties, subsequent GIS-based analysis of the database, and the role of municipalities in heritage designations. The Committee agreed to participate in the study.

Action: Co-Chair Bryant will confirm the Committee's participation with the contact.

Action: Committee members will send relevant information and digital photographs to Co-Chair Bryant, who will liaise with the contact.

Ministry Training Session

D. Gundrum noted the training session with Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism, and Culture staff has been scheduled for March 9th. The Committee will dedicate the March 9th meeting to the Ministry training; any time-sensitive Committee business will take place offline. Questions can be directed to Chair Merlihan and/or Co-Chair Bryant in the interim.

Action: The Committee requested D. Gundrum liaise with Ministry staff regarding the duration of the training session.

Heritage Designation of Residential Properties

The Committee will request relevant information from Ministry staff during the training session.

Ghost Signage

Chair Merlihan provided an update on the Ghost Signage project.

Action: Chair Merlihan will circulate the templates to the Committee for comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Co-Chair Bryant

Seconded by P. Stortz

That the meeting be adjourned to meet again on Wednesday, March 9, 2022.

...Carried.