



Township of Woolwich
Heritage Committee
Agenda

May 10, 2023

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers & via Video Conference

Chair: Councillor Bonnie Bryant

Access Details

Meeting Link

Meeting ID: 894 4250 8289

Passcode: 068142

Toll-Free: 855-703-8985

Pages

1. Land Acknowledgement

The land on which we meet has been here from time immemorial. People have inhabited southern Ontario for about 10,000 years and we acknowledge the Neutral people also called Attawandaron, Anishinaabe, and Haudenosaunee Peoples who lived here when settlers arrived and who share this land with us. May we together learn to care for and respect each other, our flora and fauna, and the land we inhabit together.

2. Call to Order

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

4. Adoption of Minutes

4.1 April 12, 2023

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5. New Business

5.1 The Importance of Heritage as an Economic Driver

Presenter: Jenna Deboer, Economic Development and Tourism Officer

5.2 Heritage Awareness Initiative Proposal

- Newspaper articles
- Community engagement
- Volunteer recognition awards

5.3 Ontario Heritage Trust

6. Work Plan Updates

6.1 Elmira Library Designation

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6.2 Greenhouse Road Bridge/Beitz Bridge - Draft Plaque Content

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7. Items for the Next Agenda

8. Next Meeting

June 14, 2023

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

9. Adjournment

Township of Woolwich Heritage Committee Minutes

April 12, 2023
Virtual – Zoom Meeting
From 5:00 to 5:47 p.m.

Meeting Chair: Councillor Bonnie Bryant (Chair)
Attended: Colleen Willard-Holt (Co-Chair)
Hans Pottkamper
Karen Cummings*
Katy Boose
Kim Hodgson*
Marg Drexler
Staff Present: Robyn Koutrouliotis, Licensing Officer/Administrative Assistant
Regrets: Allison Gramlow

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Councillor Bonnie Bryant read a land acknowledgement.

CALL TO ORDER at 5:00 P.M.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Co-Chair Colleen Willard-Holt
Seconded by Marg Drexler

That the minutes of March 8, 2023 be adopted as presented.

...Carried.

WORK PLAN

Township of Woolwich Municipal Heritage Register

The Committee will continue to prioritize designations for the Elmira Carnegie Library and St. Boniface Cemetery in Maryhill.

** Karen Cummings entered the meeting.*

Co-Chair Willard-Holt and Katy Boose will take point on the Elmira library designation research.

Action: The Committee requested David Gundrum, Planner, provide a designation template.

Action: Co-Chair Willard-Holt and K. Boose will conduct research for the library designation.

ITEMS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Committee Meeting Format

Discussion occurred on the members' preferred meeting day, format, and frequency.

Moved by Hans Pottkamper
Seconded by K. Cummings

That the Township of Woolwich Heritage Committee, considering meeting format and details for meetings scheduled between May 2023 and November 2023:

1. Transition to a fully hybrid meeting format with a preference for in-person member attendance whenever possible;
2. Schedule meetings on Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.; and
3. Schedule said meetings in accordance with the requirements outlined in the Heritage Committee Terms of Reference.

...Carried.

Heritage Plaques

** Kim Hodgson entered the meeting.*

Greenhouse Road Plaque

Action: K. Hodgson will recirculate the draft content.

Former St. Boniface School Plaque – Information Update

Action: The Committee requested D. Gundrum provide an update on the installation of the former St. Boniface School heritage plaque at the May 10th meeting.

Final Review of Ghost Community Content

The Committee reviewed the ghost community content and discussed creating a new web page to allow for more detailed historical information to supplement the Story Map Viewer.

Action: The Committee requested Robyn Koutrouliotis, Licensing Officer/Administrative Assistant, determine the feasibility of adding another page to the Heritage section of the website.

Proposed Heritage Designations

St. Boniface Church Cemetery, Maryhill

The Committee reviewed the research and discussed next steps, including a staff report to officially designate the property.

Heritage Restoration Site Visit, Winterbourne

The Committee discussed merging the June 14th meeting with a site visit to the property.

Action: K. Hodgson will contact the property owners to determine their availability.

Peel Street Bridge

The Committee considered a site visit to the Peel Street Bridge as part of the June 14th meeting. Chair Bryant noted Council has deferred a decision on the bridge. The Committee discussed options to restore and/or retain the bridge, including the Ontario Heritage Trust.

NEW BUSINESS

Staff Role Expectations for Planning and Administrative Support

R. Koutrouliotis provided an overview of the administrative support she provides for Committee meetings. She noted content for the Heritage Story Map Viewer can be sent to Lisa Atkinson, GIS

Technician. Content for other Heritage web pages can be sent to Rae Ann Bauman, Executive Officer.

Action: The Committee requested D. Gundrum attend the May meeting to speak to his role.

Heritage Recognition Awards

The Committee discussed implementing a heritage recognition award program to formally acknowledge volunteers.

Heritage Content in Print Media

The Committee discussed liaising with local media to assess interest in publishing regular articles about heritage matters. The Committee discussed content options, including notable public figures, the history of the West Montrose Covered Bridge, and the evolution of downtown St. Jacobs.

** K. Cummings left the meeting.*

The Committee considered utilizing the research compiled for heritage designations and the Story Map Viewer. K. Boose expressed interest in drafting some of the write-ups and highlighted public interest in good-news stories.

Action: H. Pottkamper will contact the Woolwich Observer to assess interest in the project.

** K. Cummings re-entered the meeting.*

The Committee discussed research options such as interviews with knowledgeable community members. Various avenues were considered, including incorporating the request in the proposed newspaper articles; contacting the Woolwich Seniors' Association to assess member interest; and advertising via posters to request individuals submit suggestions. Additional discussion will occur at the May 10th meeting.

Economic Development and Tourism/Heritage Committee Collaboration

The Township's Economic Development and Tourism Officer is scheduled to attend the next meeting.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Ontario Heritage Trust

Action: K. Hodgson will reach out to a contact at the Trust for information on available programs and supports; an update will be provided at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by H. Pottkamper

Seconded K. Hodgson

That the meeting be adjourned.

...Carried.

INEXPENSIVE-CREATIVE
 HAPPY BIRTHDAY
 HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
 THANK-YOU
 NEW BABY OR GRANDBABY
 "I LOVE YOU"
 3'X4'
 3'X4'



This building met Andrew Carnegie's criteria — a simple one-floor plan with basement. The only "ornamental work" consisted of a romanesque arch and semi-circular transom over the main entrance, with a small classically-styled portico consisting of a triangular pediment with dentils and Ionic columns.

Legendary philanthropist Carnegie helped build early Elmira library

by BERTHA THOMPSON

for the Woolwich local architectural conservation advisory committee

A common architectural feature of small town North America is the Carnegie free library. So common it seems, that they are scarcely given a second glance. But according to Collier's Encyclopedia (1969), only 125 libraries were endowed in all of Canada. Elmira has one.

Scottish-born Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919), in addition to much other philanthropy gave funds for 2,800 free public libraries throughout the English-speaking world.

In 1848, Carnegie's father moved with his family to Allegheny, Pennsylvania, where young Andrew started work in a cotton factory at \$1.20 per week. Diligence, along with good luck, brought him to the point in 1901 where he sold his interests in iron and steel making and attacked the problem of giving away his wealth, reckoned at many millions.

Carnegie's concept of a millionaire was someone who acted as a "trustee for the poor, entrusted for a

for its own welfare."

Letters dated May 21, 1912, and May 25, 1912, between A.J. Kimmel, Berlin, and a Mr. Hammond, Elmira, indicate that Kimmel had "generously bestowed" the site for the library conditional on the council obtaining agreement from a Mr. Mogk to open a street. (Caspar Mogk operated the present Steddick House, which was known variously as the Ontario House or as Mogk's hotel. Frame outbuildings, which appear on old photographs to be stables or driving sheds, stretched from the present Petro Canada station to St. James Lutheran church, in effect, right across today's Water street.)

A second condition appeared to the proposed site for the federal building to house the postoffice, customs offices and armoury, for Mr. Hammond assured A.J. Kimmel that "the Bulgin property has been chosen as a P.O. site." (Woolwich municipal offices occupy this building in 1984.)

Kimmel, as organizer of the stock company which in 1900 converted Winger Woolens into the Elmira Felt Co., along with D.

ranged to have "the old barn and frame shop" removed.

The shop referred to was of board and batten construction and served as Henry Hahn's cooperage. He produced wooden tubs and buckets from wood soaked in the stream (now a buried drain under the Water-street sidewalk) to facilitate shaping the products.

The house now at 26-28 King street, was also moved from the library property. Details of that transaction are not known.

Impetus for a public library, free to all, received support from a men's social club known as the Germania society. This literary society, founded in 1886, which recorded minutes of its weekly Friday evening meetings alternately in English and German, met in Karl Klinck's hall at the rear of the Klinck block on Church street west. The yearly rental was \$18. Expenditures approved at the first meeting included \$7.70 for chairs, \$1.70 for lamps and \$10.75 for books.

The charter members were John Weichel, George Klinck, Karl Blum, John S. Ruppel, Herman Feldpusch, William Weidenhammer, Frank

A friendly Art Gallery in St. Jac



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Third floor, St. Jac
10 King Street
664-



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*for the Woolwich
local architectural
conservation advisory
committee*

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Carnegie's concept of a millionaire was someone who acted as a "trustee for the poor, entrusted for a season with a great part of the increased wealth of the community, but administering it for the community."

In this vein, he made the gift of his first library to his native town of Dunfermline, Scotland, in 1882.

Carnegie would provide funds for the building only after the municipal government had provided a site and passed an ordinance for the purchase of books and for the future maintenance of the library through taxation. This was in accord with his philosophy that the dispensation of wealth for the benefit of society must never be in the form of free charity, but rather, must be as a "buttress to the community's responsibility

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Kimmel, as organizer of the stock company which in 1900 converted Winger Woolens into the Elmira Felt Co., along with D. Lorne McGibbon and T.H. Rieder, purchased the entire share capital in 1907, and in 1909 formed the Canadian Felt Co. Ltd., writes that he has ar-

barn and frame shop" removed.

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Third floor, St.
10 King S
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Greenhouse Road Bridge (Beitz Bridge) -

DRAFT information for Plaque.



Greenhouse Road bridge, also known as Beitz' Bridge, was located on Township Road 68 (Hopewell Creek Road), north-east of the Town of Breslau. Historically, it is in the Horning Tract of Waterloo Township. historically in Woolwich Township, County of Waterloo. The common name for the bridge, Beitz' Bridge, is referenced refers to a Mennonite family, the Beitz family, who have farmed in proximity to near the bridge for over 100 years. A member of the Beitz family, Henry Beitz helped to build the bridge.

This bridge was built in 1919 to replace a previous bridge built to assist mid-nineteenth century transportation to cross over Hopewell Creek, a minor tributary of the Grand River. Beitz' Bridge, built in 1919, was a single-span, cast-in-place, concrete T-beam and slab bridge representing 'the next evolution in bridge technology.' To construct this bridge, concrete was poured into T-shaped wooden scaffolding. The wood formwork was then removed, and the T-beams were joined to form the deck.

This bridge represents the earliest example of a T-beam and slab type bridge in Woolwich Township and is one of six of its type considered heritage bridges in Waterloo Region. As an early example of this bridge type, this structure contributes to the understanding of bridge development in Waterloo Region. In 2006, Beitz' Bridge was determined to have heritage value as it the earliest example of a cast-in-place concrete T-beam and slab bridge in Waterloo Region, and is an early example of its type for Ontario.

Beitz Bridge has been included as a heritage bridge in the Spanning the Generations, Study of Old Bridges in Waterloo Region inventory within the Waterloo Region (PHCS 2004). It was also identified as a non-heritage bridge in The Grand River Watershed Heritage Bridge Inventory (Benjamin et al. 2013).

The bridge was removed in 2022 due to.....

Maybe the sign simply says "Former location of Beitz' Bridge, 1919-2022" and provide a QR code linking to the rest of this?

If we need a shortened version, I'd suggest something like this:

Greenhouse Road bridge, also known as Beitz' Bridge, was built in 1919 and located on what is historically known as the Horning Tract of Waterloo Township, County of Waterloo. The common name for the bridge refers to a Mennonite family who farmed near the bridge for over 100 years. Henry Beitz helped build the bridge.

The bridge was a single-span, cast-in-place, concrete T-beam and slab bridge representing 'the next evolution in bridge technology.' In 2006, Beitz' Bridge was determined to have heritage value as it the earliest example of a cast-in-place concrete T-beam and slab bridge in Waterloo Region, and is an early example of its type for Ontario. The bridge was removed in 2022.