

# Meeting Minutes

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City of Guelph

## **Heritage Guelph Committee (HG)**

September 9, 2019

Guelph City Hall, Committee Room C, 1 Carden Street

From 12:05 to 2:15 p.m.

Meeting Chair: P. Brian Skerrett

Present: P. Brian Skerrett, Arlin Otto, James Smith, Kesia Kvill, Mary Tivy, Michael Crawley

Absent: Bob Foster, David Wavernan, Charles Nixon

Staff Present: Stephen Robinson (Senior Heritage Planner), Melissa Aldunate (Manager, Policy Planning and Urban Design), Abby Watts (Development Planner); Dolores Black (Council and Committee Coordinator)

### **Agenda Items**

All were welcomed by the Chair

### **Items 1, 2 and 3**

**Item 1**, Call to order and review of agenda

**Item 2**, Acknowledgements

**Item 3**, Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest - None

**Item 4**, Approval of Minutes of the July 8, 2019 meeting.

Moved by: Kesia Kvill

Seconded Arlin Otto

**Carried – unanimous**

**THAT the minutes of the July 8, 2019 meeting of Heritage Guelph be approved.**

### **Item 5, Cultural Heritage Action Plan**

Also present: Dan Currie and Nick Bogaert of MHBC Consultants

Stephen Robinson (Senior Heritage Planner) provided clarification of the use of the term "candidate" cultural heritage landscape and identified there are five cultural heritage landscapes that have already been protected by a heritage designation bylaw.

- It was noted that there are some errors and omissions regarding the heritage attributes, for example, 'Catholic Hill'. Staff requested committee members to submit the errors and omissions to staff.
- Dan Currie provided information regarding the prioritization of the cultural heritage landscapes as they pertain to the action plans. He explained that areas where development is active are considered higher risk and lower risk areas were those that were more stabilized, and the prioritization was not just a reflection of the value of the cultural heritage resource. He also advised they will be refining the property boundaries to eliminate vagueness.
- Dan Currie noted five properties are higher priority than the other cultural heritage landscapes due to the higher risk of change happening and the possibility of heritage attributes being compromised or lost.
- Dan Currie also stated the study was conducted to determine whether cultural heritage landscapes met the heritage criteria and that the details would be addressed later in the process.
- The committee requested details regarding the criteria used to determine risks.
- The consultants advised they examined building permit data and demolition permit data using GIS from the City and reviewed the density of the permits issued broken down by year.
- The question was raised whether building permit applications and not just demolition permit attempts could be used and the consultants advised it would be difficult to obtain that data.
- Dan Currie explained the Exhibition Park CHL area covered more than the park and extended to Woolwich Street and the streets joining Exhibition Street to Woolwich Street.
- Further clarification regarding the boundaries was requested.
- The validity of the vulnerability of the Exhibition Park area compared to Catholic Hill was questioned and details regarding the number of heritage properties that sought demolition permits was requested.
- A concern was raised regarding investing tax dollars on higher income properties.
- Stephen Robinson clarified that there are numerous properties within CHLs that are not listed on the heritage register and the concern is not just demolition but also alterations to the areas. He noted the types of development and alterations that are being approved could seriously compromise the cultural heritage value.
- It was stated that the criteria regarding mass, street height, frontages, etc. need to be clear but also need to be broader to be adaptable.
- The committee also inquired about the number of Committee of Adjustment applications that have been proposed and advised that demolitions and building permits are not a full enough metric.
- A preference was voiced to have the Waterloo Avenue CHL given higher priority due to the importance of part of that area for black history involved.
- Staff will send out an email with a deadline for the committee members to submit their comments .

#### Financial Components

- Dan Currie noted that grant programs are well-received and effective and they will be recommending them as incentives as part of the final Cultural Heritage Action Plan

#### Remaining Farm Barns

- Stephen Robinson provided information regarding farm barns within the city and advised that he is in the process of establishing an inventory and is working on descriptions for each of the barns.
- Stephen Robinson will be including the inventory of extant farm barns be included in the Cultural Heritage Action Plan with a staff recommendation.

- There was a request for a clear definition of a farm barn and clarification of the criteria used to include the barn in the inventory.

Coordination with outreach initiatives of culture, tourism, and community investment at Guelph, doors open

- Stephen Robinson advised that there is good potential for the City to work with others in the outreach, such as Doors Open, Guelph Tourism and others.
- Staff advised that initiatives involved when the City discusses or considers actions that affect indigenous properties/groups would be coordinated through Culture, Tourism and Community Investment.
- The committee inquired about potential awards for heritage and staff advised there is potential but it will not form part of the Cultural Heritage Action Plan.
- Melissa Aldunate clarified that the City is investigating how to best move forward on indigenous matters, website development and advised that Tourism has been approached regarding special events/tours and other ideas and those initiatives will arise out of the Cultural Heritage Action Plan but will not be included within the plan.
- Melissa Aldunate advised archaeological assessments are not part of the Cultural Heritage Action Plan.

Moved by: Kesia Kvill

Seconded by: Mary Tivy

**Carried – unanimous**

**That the Cultural Heritage Action Plan information be received.**

#### **Item 6, 12 Forbes Avenue**

Also Present: David Brix, Terraview Homes

- Stephen Robinson provided details of the proposed development of the property
- David Brix provided details of the building construction and advised that the new dwelling will meet Energy Star requirements and he was able to keep the existing garage.
- Questions were raised regarding the windows and casements, the garage and setbacks.
- Stephen Robinson advised he has been working with the designer and is close to providing his approval of the development and believes he will be able to reach agreement with the proponent shortly.

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Moved by:

Seconded by:

**Carried – unanimous**

**That the Heritage Committee endorse the proposed design for 12 Forbes Avenue, subject to the satisfaction of the Senior Heritage Planner.**

Moved by: Mary Tivy

Seconded by: Kesia Kvill

**Carried – unanimous**

**That the Heritage Guelph Terms of Reference be suspended to extend the meeting ten minutes beyond 2:00 p.m.**

**Item 7, Heritage Guelph Designation Working Group Report** – James Smith

- Discussion ensued regarding the number of plaques needing to be completed, the budget for the plaques and where the plaques should be located on the properties.
- The committee is hoping to get the approval process completed so the plaques can be finished by the end of the year.
- It was suggested by Heritage Guelph that an action plan should be developed to protect significant views of significant cultural heritage resources.

**Adjournment**

Moved by: Mary Tivy

Seconded by: Kesia Kvill

**Carried – unanimous**

**Next Meetings of Heritage Guelph:**

Heritage Guelph: October 15, 2019 (12:00 noon-2:00 p.m.) City Hall, Mtg Rm C

HG Designation Working Group: September 23, 2019 (10:30 noon-2:00 p.m.) City Hall, Mtg Rm

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