

# MEETING MINUTES



MEETING DATE	<b>River Systems Advisory Committee</b> November 21, 2012
LOCATION TIME	City Hall - Meeting Room "C" 4:00 – 6:30 p.m.
MEMBERS PRESENT	Jeremy Shute (Chair), Stan Kozak, Eric Wilson, Nicola Lower, Mary Finch, Mariette Pushkar
STAFF PRESENT	Adele Labbé, Vaille Laur, April Nix, Stephen Robinson, Rodrigo Goller, Joan Jylanne, Todd Salter, Sylvia Kirkwood
MEMBERS ABSENT	Michelle Bowman, Karen Chisholme

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION
<b>1</b>	<p><b>Welcome:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Roll call and certification of quorum</li> <li>▪ Declaration of pecuniary interest or conflict of interest - None</li> <li>▪ Review of agenda               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Stan Kozak added "Issues at Committee Level" to Agenda Item #2.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Presentations:</b></p> <p><b>1. Community Engagement Framework - Rodrigo Goller, Community Engagement Coordinator with the City of Guelph</b></p> <p>Rodrigo Goller, Community Engagement Coordinator with the City of Guelph, gave a presentation on the Community Engagement Framework and requested feedback on various community engagement tools/methods. Feedback from the community members will be used to develop a toolkit of engagement resources for the Community Engagement Framework.</p> <p>It was advised that the Community Engagement framework will provide corporate decision makers and community members with a consistent and genuine approach that will set a standard of excellence for community engagement processes in the City of Guelph.</p> <p>Some highlights noted from the presentation include:</p> <p>Presentation Outline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review of the components of the Community Engagement Framework (CEF)</li> <li>2. Background &amp; Process</li> <li>3. Definitions and Guiding Principles</li> <li>4. Roadmap for Community Engagement</li> <li>5. Toolkit of Engagement Activities</li> </ol>

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6. Obtain feedback, comments and suggestions
  7. Next Steps

General discussion took place and Rodrigo Goller responded to questions from the River Systems Advisory Committee.

RSAC members to submit suggestions or feedback to Rodrigo Goller by the end of December 2012.

## 2. Heritage Conservation District Update – Stephen Robinson, Senior Heritage Planner with the City of Guelph

Stephen Robinson, Senior Heritage Planner with the City of Guelph presented visuals and background on the boundary options currently being considered by Council for the proposed Brooklyn and College Hill Heritage Conservation District. Stephen informed the Committee that a staff report will be presented at the December 10 meeting of the Planning, Building, Engineering and Environment (PBEE) Committee with two recommended alternative HCD boundaries for Council's consideration. Stephen reviewed alternative Options A and B noting that there are four major heritage character areas encompassed in the boundary – the Speed and Eramosa Riverscape, the original Brooklyn neighbourhood, the original College Hill residential area and a portion of the old Dundas Road (now Gordon Street).

Neither of the alternative HCD boundary options include the Wellington Street dam, most of the properties along James Street East, the University of Guelph property south of University Avenue East, the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre property or the corner commercial buildings at the northwest corner of Gordon Street and College Avenue West. Option B removes all of the James Street East properties whereas Option A keeps the buildings on the Gordon Street/James Street East corner and the former railway transformer building.

Stephen advised that the Staff Report reiterates that the riverscape should be included within the proposed heritage district area and also that the key to any practical and symbiotic solution for competing views on the riverscape's ecological, natural heritage and cultural heritage values must involve the creation of HCD policies that seek to obtain a balanced approach.

The floor was opened to delegations.

### ***Delegation:***

Hugh Whiteley, expressed the following concerns:

- The title for the district should be changed to include the Speed River confluence
- Recommends the RSAC acknowledge the cultural heritage of the Speed River confluence and that the HCD include it.
- Boundary to be drawn to include all landscape elements related to the confluence which are of cultural heritage value.

General discussion took place and RSAC noted that other mechanisms would need to be considered, including a Class Environmental Assessment and its public involvement.

It was suggested that RSAC makes recommendations to the City, early in 2013, on how to address the question of the fate the dam and related management of the seasonally impounded water. It was also suggested on using the dam issue as an opportunity to update the River Systems Management Plan.

It was noted to add this issue on the agenda/workplan for 2013.

### **3. Official Plan Update – April Nix, Environmental Planner – Policy with the City of Guelph**

April Nix, Environmental Planner with the City of Guelph gave a presentation on the Official Plan Review – OPA 42 and 48 Update.

Some highlights noted from the presentation include:

Presentation Outline:

1. Purpose
2. Three Phases of the Official Plan Review:
  - Phase 1 – OPA 39 Conformity with the Growth Plan
  - Phase 2 - OPA 42 Natural Heritage System
  - Phase 3 – OPA 48 Remainder of the Plan
3. Official Plan Update Process
4. OPA 42 – Process Overview
5. Considerations for River Systems
6. OPA 48 – Process Overview
  - Phase 3 of the Official Plan Review
  - Adopted by Council June 5, 2011
  - Currently awaiting decision from the Province
    - Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has 180 days to review and provide decision
7. OPA 48 – Policy Areas
8. OPA 48 – Community Infrastructure
9. Summary

The floor was opened to delegations.

#### ***Delegation:***

Hugh Whiteley, distributed a copy of the Town of Oakville Official Plan in regards to Section 7.2.3.1 Environment and Open Space, and indicated he believed this to be the correct way of preparing an Official Plan. Hugh also expressed the following concerns:

- Doesn't believe natural heritage and open space systems are being made a priority in the Official Plan.
- OPA 48 – What consideration does it give to parks and recreation?

- The River Systems Management Plan gives equal weight to natural heritage, urban design and open space.

Hugh to send Jeremy Shute an email on the above points for clarification purposes.

General discussion took place and RSAC suggested that a subcommittee be created to address proposed Official Plan policies and learn more about the inclusion of River Systems Management Plan principles into the Official Plan. The Subcommittee members include: Stan Kozak, Eric Wilson, Nicola Lower and Mariette Pushkar.

#### **4. The Role of RSAC: Mandate and Procedural Guide –Adèle Labbé, Environmental Planner – Development with the City of Guelph**

Adèle Labbé, Environmental Planner with the City of Guelph gave a presentation on the River Systems Advisory Committee: Role and Mandate.

Some highlights noted from the presentation include:

Presentation Outline:

1. RSAC's Role
2. RSAC's Mandate
3. Issues to be Dealt with by the Committee
4. Moving forward - What the City Needs
5. A Look into 2013 and Beyond...
6. Next Steps
  - Create a work plan for 2013
  - Comprehensive review of committee mandates

Todd Salter advised staff is willing to work with the chair and/or subcommittee to develop a work plan for 2013. Subcommittee members include: Karen Chisholme, Stan Kozak and Jeremy Shute.

Adele Labbé to meet with Jeremy Shute and the subcommittee.

#### **5. Discussion from last month's presentation re: Guelph Innovation District**

Discussion took place and it was decided the subcommittee would respond.

#### **6. RSAC Annual Report Draft Format Template**

The Chair will prepare a draft for the RSAC meeting in January.

#### **7. Issues at Committee Level**

Stan Kozak expressed concern that there is not enough time to do the work required of RSAC and that the Tribune Ad does not adequately identify the time commitment required by the Committee.

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<b>3</b>	<b>Adoption of October 17, 2012 Meeting Minutes:</b>  Moved by Nicola Lower and seconded by Stan Kozak "To accept the minutes as printed."  Motion Carried -Unanimous-
<b>4</b>	<b>Adjournment</b>

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**ACTION ITEMS**

<b>ITEM #</b>	<b>ASSIGNED TO</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>1.</b>	RSAC	2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Field trip along the River Systems in the City.</li></ul>
<b>2.</b>	Jeremy/Karen/Eric	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Identification of restoration priorities along the River System and ideas for restoration within these locations.</li></ul>
<b>3.</b>	Jeremy/Karen	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Development of potential road signage for the identification of rivers and tributaries within the City.</li></ul>