

CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMITTEE MINUTES

October 21, 2020 at 5:00 pm
Via Webconference

Present: Deputy Mayor Mike Hentz, Delany Leitch, Elaine Brown, Laurence Grant, Blair Ferguson, Ron Ross, Angela Bobier, Tracey Pillon-Abbs, Planner Kate Morreau, Executive Assistant.

Delany chaired and called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

Adoption of the Minutes – September 16, 2020

Delany asked if there were any errors or omissions and a motion to adopt the minutes. Elaine stated the BBQ was on the 3rd and not the 2nd.

Motion to adopt the minutes of September 16, 2020 as amended by Elaine and seconded by Blair. CARRIED.

Delegation

None

Heritage Designation Updates

13658 Dunborough Road, Crinan Community Centre

The evaluation of the Centre is being prepared by the Committee. The Committee recommended a meeting with the Crinan Community Centre Committee. Delany agreed to contact the Committee to see if there is interest in a meeting. A discussion ensued in regards to the importance and value of this property in a contextual capacity, as an original one room school house rarely exist anymore. Delany will send an email to the Committee to share the information the Committee has already compiled in a hope they are interested in the designation proposal.

31182 Celtic Line, Duncan McTavish

Mike provided an update and recommended that this may not be the best time to designate this property due to the health of the property owner. This item is to be removed from the agenda.

Heritage Committee Training

After a brief discussion, this training scheduled for November 18, 2020 will be postponed to the spring due to the benefits of having in person training (as opposed to virtual) which is not recommended at this time.

Dutton Dunwich Heritage Brochure

Tracey provided a draft brochure to the Committee, as revised, for feedback, which now included “testimonials” and pictures of each designated site. The only designated site that did not respond with a statement was Victoria Spencer. Tracey will reach out to Victoria Spencer. Kate will review final draft to ensure AODA compliance. Once finalized the brochure will be posted to the Municipal Heritage website and hardcopies will also be made available.

Doors Open (2021 Theme - Design)

Tracey provided an update on the 2021 Doors Open application process. The application deadline is December 2020 for the 2021 event. Submission of a \$1,500 (estimate based on 2020 information) registration fee will be required to be submitted with the application and can be charged to the 2021 budget as the event will occur in that year. Tracey will check the Doors Open COVID contingency plans and the refund policy in case the event has to be cancelled.

The theme next year of “Designs” fits well with Laurence’s suggestion showcasing 2/4 examples of classical revival buildings in Iona, also Backus-Page Museum and the Littlejohn property could be invited to participate.

Heritage Week 2021

Angela provided an update. Angela stated the Family Fun Day will not be held in February 2021, however the board is open to ideas if the committee wishes to submit any as people are looking for something to do.

Delany suggested a virtual event. However not everyone has access to suitable internet. The virtual event could be pre-recorded and uploaded to the Heritage Website page for that week.

It was decided that the Committee will discuss further at their next regular meeting.

Ontario Heritage Act (Bill 108)

Tracey explained that Bill 108 is now available for review. No additional changes as seen in previous draft. The delay in the comment period was due to COVID-19. Comments are not open until November 5, 2020.

Tracey stated the updated Heritage Act provides more clarity. Some other municipalities have expressed concerns regarding the CRB process being changed to LPAT. Clarification of the term Heritage Landscape is now a defined term. Tracey suggested if the committee has any comments, they can go to the EBR or the Committee could provide comments as a group.

Laurence stated Dan Schneider (who has a heritage blog) has expressed concerns regarding there being too much of the designation process being steered by regulations and

that municipal councils will no longer have any authority on designations with that part shifting to the LPAC process. Once the decision is made by LPAC it is binding.

Tracey will compile the Committee's comments and concerns about Bill 108 and submit to the EBR. Tracey will also prepare an information report to Council as an update.

Ongoing Matters

- Iona Park Naming Recommendation – Lumley Park
Deputy Mayor Hentz stated the park will hopefully be built this fall. Council Members Loveland and Drouillard are overseeing this project and they are aware of the Committee's park name suggestion of Lumley Park.
- Research for Hamlets Interpretive Signs
The signs were discussed. It was decided the committee have just one of the signs made up first if permitted by the printing company under the quote that was received. It was determined that the Largie and Coyne's Corner hamlets would be the most travelled roads for the first sign(s) to be installed.
- Five Year Official Plan Review
Tracey stated the Official Plan Revised Draft is now available on the municipal website for public consultation. A series of open houses and a public meeting is also being scheduled. More information is available in the notice which will appear in the newspaper this week. The deadline for comments is December 18, 2020. The committee can provide their comments at their next regular meeting.
- Elgin County Cycling Trail Project
Delany stated that Mike Baker at the last meeting talked about trails with heritage signage and the prospect to connect with other municipalities. There is a lot of work being done at the County level. Delany stated she can provide an update at the next meeting.

Laurence asked the question if the abandoned railway corridors in the municipality can be acquired. Deputy Mayor Hentz stated this has been discussed in the past, however the railway owners think the land is worth millions of dollars.

New Business

Annual Heritage Report

Tracey requested any Committee suggestions for 2021 be submitted so the annual heritage report can be submitted to Council for the December 16, 2020 meeting. The committee can provide their comments at their next regular meeting.

Protocols on Recycling Materials from Demolished Buildings

Laurence is requesting a protocol to address the recycling of material of architectural interest, and if this can be reviewed this with other Planners. Tracey stated she will research this possibility. Laurence stated this was done in St. Thomas with a building on Metcalfe Street.

Upcoming Events

- a) Heritage Committee Training – Postponed until Spring 2020
- b) A Very Victorian Christmas, Backus-Page House Museum – December 5, 6, 12, 13, 20 and 27 through to the 31, from 10 am to 4 pm
- c) Heritage Week 2021 – February 15/21 to February 21/21
- d) Wallacetown Fair 2021 (161th Edition - Superheros Theme), Fairgrounds – October 1/21 to October 3/21
- e) Doors Open 2021, various locations - TBD

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on November 18, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., location to be determined.

Next Meeting Chair

TBD

Meeting Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Laurence and Seconded by Elaine. CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm.