

Present: Lynda Armstrong
Laura Bisset
Margaret Clayton
Lynn Collins, Vice-Chair
Deanna Hollister
Katherine Hull, Chair
Karey Anne Large
Paul Rolland
Rick McDonnell
Mark McGowan
Terry Standish

Also Present: Councillor Newman, Mayor's Designate
Sarah Ferencz, Whitby Public Library Archivist
Ed Belsey, Senior Manager, Policy and Heritage Planning
Michael Tranquada, Urban Designer
Lori Tesolin, Supervisor, Policy and Heritage and Principal Planner
Heather Oerlemans, Council and Committee Coordinator
(Recording Secretary)

Regrets: Brian Winter, Honourary Member

Call to Order

1. Disclosures of Interest

- 1.1** Katherine Hull declared a pecuniary interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act regarding Item 3.1, 625 Columbus Road West, Application for Removal of a Non-Designated Property from the Municipal Heritage Register, as she is a partner and shareholder at ASI, the company that prepared the Heritage Impact Assessment for 625 Columbus Road West. Additionally, Ms. Hull is the former Director of ASI's Cultural Heritage Division. Ms. Hull did not take part in the discussion or voting on this matter.

- 1.2** Lynn Collins declared a pecuniary interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act regarding Item 3.1, 625 Columbus Road West, Application for Removal of a Non-Designated Property from the Municipal Heritage Register, as Fieldgate Developments is a client of Ms. Collins' company. Additionally, Ms. Collins is working for the Brooklin North Landowners Group of which Fieldgate Developments is a landowner participant. Ms. Collins did not take part in the discussion or voting on this matter.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

2.1 Minutes - April 13, 2021

Recommendation:

Moved By Laura Bisset

That the Heritage Whitby Advisory Committee minutes of April 13, 2021 be approved.

Carried

Having previously declared a conflict of interest by the Chair and Vice-Chair, nominations for appointment of the Acting Chair of the Heritage Whitby Advisory Committee to hear Item 3.1, 625 Columbus Road West, Application for Removal of a Non-Designated Property from the Heritage Register, were held at this time.

Rick McDonnell nominated Margaret Clayton for position of Acting Chair of the Heritage Whitby Advisory Committee.

Margaret Clayton accepted the nomination and there were no further nominations.

Recommendation:

Moved By Rick McDonnell

That Margaret Clayton be appointed Acting Chair of the Heritage Whitby Advisory Committee for the purposes of hearing Item 3.1, 625 Columbus Road West, Application for Removal of a Non-Designated Property from the Heritage Register.

Carried

3. Presentations

- 3.1** Russel White, Vice President of Land Development, Fieldgate Developments, and James Neilson, Cultural Heritage Specialist, ASI
Re: 625 Columbus Road West: Application for Removal of a Non-Designated Property from the Municipal Heritage Register

Having previously declared a conflict of interest, Katherine Hull and Lynn Collins did not take part in the discussion or voting on this matter. Margaret Clayton assumed the Chair for this portion of the meeting.

Russel White and James Neilson provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding 625 Columbus Road West, Application for Removal of a Non-Designated Property from the Municipal Heritage Register. Highlights of the presentation included:

- the location of the property within the Brooklin Secondary Plan;
- the scope of the research conducted on the property;
- an overview of the findings of the Heritage Impact Assessment;
- the history of the building as a circa-1879 residence;
- defining the style of the home as a significantly altered 'Ontario Cottage' or 'Gothic Revival Style'; and,
- the findings of the Heritage Impact Assessment indicated that the property did not meet the criteria for designation under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Recommendation:

Moved By Deanna Hollister

That the Heritage Whitby Advisory Committee has no objections to the removal of 625 Columbus Road West from the register due to its modifications and lack of significant cultural importance.

Carried

Katherine Hull resumed the Chair.

4. Delegations

- 4.1** There were no delegations.

5. General Business and Reports

- 5.1** Phase 2 Engagement: Downtown Whitby Secondary Plan Update

Lori Tesolin provided an update regarding the Downtown Whitby Secondary Plan. Ms. Tesolin advised that the update was currently in Phase 2 Engagement which proposed different land use concept options. She stated that feedback could be provided through the Downtown Whitby Secondary Plan Update Project page on Connect Whitby. She further stated that the Phase 2 Online Community Open House would be open from June 3 to June 23, 2021 to receive feedback. Ms. Tesolin advised that a live presentation would be held on June 10, 2021 and required attendees to pre-register.

A question and answer period ensued regarding:

- how the Town was addressing overlap and conflicts between the Bus Rapid Transit Project and the Downtown Whitby Secondary Plan;
- whether the Downtown Whitby Secondary Plan would address issues related to traffic patterns, intensification, and the Bus Rapid Transit project;
- whether the Town was taking a proactive approach to redirecting traffic patterns due to the Bus Rapid Transit Project;
- whether intensification of development could be spread out; and,
- whether the lack of parkland and open space would be addressed.

5.2 General Update: Heritage Planning Portfolio

Lori Tesolin provided an update on the Heritage Planning Portfolio. Ms. Tesolin advised that the Committee would be updated once a new Staff Liaison was recruited. She further advised that several inquiries had been received regarding the heritage status of properties located in the heritage districts.

Lori Tesolin advised that the changes to the Ontario Heritage Act regulations under Bill 108 would take effect on July 1, 2021. Ms. Tesolin further advised that the Ministry would be hosting information sessions on June 10, 17, and 22, 2021.

6. Correspondence

6.1 There was no correspondence.

7. Council Update

7.1 Councillor Newman provided updates regarding:

- Council's adoption of the Zero Carbon Whitby Plan at the April 19, 2021 Special Council meeting;

- the Metrolinx Bus Rapid Transit Update presentation at the April 22, 2021 Special Council meeting;
- Council's support of the designation of the Malcolm McTaggart House at 9455 Baldwin Street North, as being of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act at the April 26, 2021 Regular Council meeting;
- a By-law to update the Advisory Committees Code of Conduct regarding the process of the Integrity Commissioner at the April 26, 2021 Regular Council meeting;
- a presentation of the concept options for the Downtown Whitby Secondary Plan Update at the May 17, 2021 Regular Council meeting;
- a technical amendment for the 1300 Gifford Street development;
- an update on the Whitby Sports Complex at the May 31, 2021 Special Council meeting;
- a presentation from the Hospital Task Force regarding the proposed Whitby site for a future hospital in Durham Region at the June 7, 2021 Special Council meeting; and,
- a presentation by volunteer residents to create a park that commemorates the battle of Vimy Ridge via a design feature of trees.

Councillor Newman requested that the Committee consider a motion to request that Council direct Staff to review the merits of utilizing the Pump House as a site for restoration in order to commemorate the lives lost due to and during the COVID-19 pandemic.

A question and answer period ensued regarding:

- whether an unveiling of the Sir William Stephenson statue had been planned;
- whether the Committee could consider adding a 'healing' component to the Pump House commemoration; and,
- whether the Pump House commemoration would be used to recognize essential service workers as well as those who had passed due to COVID-19.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the positive adaptive re-use of the Pump House to acknowledge community and global experience;
- using the Pump House commemoration as a reminder to learn from the past; and,
- the locational value of the Pump House in relation to the COVID-19 testing centre in Whitby.

Recommendation:

Moved By Lynda Armstrong

That the Heritage Whitby Advisory Committee supports the adaptive re-use and rehabilitation of the Pump House for the purposes of a COVID-19 pandemic memorial location, as a place of commemoration and reflection.

Carried

8. Other Business

8.1 810 Cochrane Street

Rick McDonnell advised that 810 Cochrane Street had been sold and expressed concerns regarding the future of the building. Mr. McDonnell stated that the building on the site was a former Whitby Brickworks workshop. He requested that the Committee continue to monitor the site to ensure the building was recognized for its historical value.

Ed Belsey advised that the property was under the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority's jurisdiction, as the site was situated on a flood plain. Katherine Hull advised that the site had archaeological potential based on the site history and its location on a flood plain.

8.2 Metrolinx Bus Rapid Transit Project

Rick McDonnell stated that certain heritage properties in Whitby would be impacted by the Metrolinx Bus Rapid Transit Project. Mr. McDonnell further stated that the building located at 326 Dundas Street East was a substantial and recognizable building in Whitby. He advised that the Bus Rapid Transit Project proposed to move the building. He requested that the Committee continue to monitor the Metrolinx route designs and how they would impact heritage properties.

Rick McDonnell suggested that elements of the Bus Rapid Transit Project, such as bus stop shelters, be named to commemorate Whitby's heritage in the downtown.

9. Next Meeting

9.1 Tuesday, September 14, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.
To be determined

10. Adjournment

10.1 Motion to Adjourn

Recommendation:

Moved By Deanna Hollister

That the meeting adjourn.

Carried

Note: These minutes were approved by the Heritage Whitby Advisory Committee on September 14, 2021.