



MINUTES
Heritage St. Marys

September 9, 2017
9:00am
St. Marys Museum
177 Church Street South

Members Present: Mayor Stratthdee
Councillor Carey Pope
Chair Larry Pfaff
Sherri Gropp
Michelle Stemmler
Mary Smith
Janis Fread
Stephen Habermehl

Members Absent: Paul King

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Larry Pfaff called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None declared.

3. AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved By Stephen Habermehl

Seconded By Michelle Stemmler

THAT the September 9, 2017 Heritage St. Marys Committee meeting agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. DELEGATIONS

None.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 Henry Monteith - Official Plan

Henry Monteith has sent an email to all the members of the Heritage Committee advising them that the Town's review of the Official Plan is underway with a public meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 10. He suggests that as Heritage is a significant component of the Plan, the committee might make a submission on this issue. Henry himself believes that there is not enough protection for Heritage Neighbourhoods.

The committee discussed Henry's concerns but members felt his expectations of/for this committee were not clear. These points were considered:

- The Heritage Committee is aware of the review of the OP and has already been given the opportunity to consider the sections relating to Heritage. The sections enabling the municipality to create Heritage Districts and to identify certain properties and landscapes as having cultural heritage value have been referred to on a number of occasions.
- Paul King, although unable to attend the meeting, had sent an email offering to talk to Henry about the possibility of creating a Heritage Conservation District along Widder Street – the most effective way of protecting a neighbourhood.
- Some committee members felt, however, that Henry's concerns applied more generally to the entire community, not specifically to his own neighbourhood.
- Larry suggested that the committee should wait for Paul's report of his conversation with Henry. As a resident, Henry can make his own submission concerning the OP and would certainly be welcome to attend a Heritage Committee meeting with any questions, comments or concerns.

6. AMENDMENT AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Moved By Mary Smith

Seconded By Michelle Stemmler

THAT the August 12, 2017 Heritage St. Marys Committee meeting minutes be approved.

CARRIED

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Larry mentioned – and agreed with – a comment in an email from Paul expressing appreciation to Brent Kittmer who took the time at the August meeting to explain (with Trisha’s input) the process of offering the West Ward School property for sale and the steps taken in working with the prospective buyer to reach an agreement that meets the Town’s requirements – and the work yet to be done. It is helpful to committee members to understand the complexity of this issue.

8. REGULAR BUSINESS

8.1 Heritage Conservation District Update

There have been no recent applications for Heritage Permits and therefore, no recent meeting of the HCD Advisory Committee.

Trisha did announce that the bylaw to enable the Heritage Property Tax Relief program is to be presented to Council on Tuesday evening, September 12. She will inform the committee of the outcome.

8.2 Municipal Register, Part 1 - Designations / Designated Property Matters

8.2.1 Via Station

Work has not yet begun on relocating the ticket office.

A new exhibit showcasing professional food photography will be in place in the Station from Friday, September 15, and through the Doors Open event.

8.2.2 Junction Station - preparation for Doors Open?

It will be tidied up for Doors Open. The ladders to the caboose are being removed for safety reasons.

8.2.3 McDonald House

Nothing to report.

8.2.4 Andrews Jeweller

Reports concerning the new owners continue to be enthusiastic.

8.2.5 Public Library

The new railing for the front entrance has not yet arrived.

8.2.6 Old Water Tower

The engineering report has not yet been received.

8.3 Municipal Register, Part 2 - List of Significant Properties

Dates have yet to be set for notifications and a public meeting.

8.4 Heritage Grant Applications

There are no new grant applications because it is late in the year to begin new projects and also the funds to award grants have almost been depleted. This is a sign of the popularity of the program.

1. In the future, a small sign placed in a window or attached to a facade in some way that identifies a downtown improvement project as a recipient of the grant from the Town of St. Marys might be a useful way of informing the public about the value of these grants.
2. Larry drew the committee's attention to the completed stone wall along the north of the Tuer-Sipos property, 45 Church Street South.

8.5 Properties of Interest or At Risk (not necessarily designated)

8.5.1 West Ward School

Nothing new to report at this time.

8.5.2 North Ward School site

A revised report from the developer is expected in October.

8.5.3 Wellington Street Bridge

This project is moving along on schedule.

8.6 CHO Report

In Paul's absence, not available.

8.7 Homeowner / Property Owner Letters

Trisha will confirm that she has provided Paul with the addresses he requested at the August meeting.

8.8 Sign By-law (Note improvements to Gregory Block)

Inconsistent signage for the four stores in the Gregory Block was a topic of discussion at the June Heritage Committee meeting. Since then, all signage for these stores has been placed in the windows making the transom panels on all

four businesses visible as well as the decorative brickwork of the parapet that runs above all four fronts. The improvement in appearance is very significant and an asset to the overall appearance of the downtown.

8.8.1 Community Players Application

Moved By Stephen Habermehl

Seconded By Sherri Gropp

THAT the St. Marys Heritage Committee recommends approval of the application for a temporary sign outside the Town Hall to advertise the Community Players' upcoming production, Man of La Mancha.

CARRIED

8.9 Cultural Planning (Strategic Plan)

Nothing new to report.

9. COUNCIL REPORT

Councillor Pope and Mayor Stratthdee agreed that most items had been already covered.

Mayor Stratthdee added that the two station studio artists, Cameron Porteous and Reed Needles, will be presenting a report of the success of the past year of exhibits in the Via Station and their proposals for the year ahead at the meeting of Council on September 12. Committee members agreed that the gallery was a great asset to the cultural attractions in the town.

Mayor Stratthdee also said that a report on the Grand Trunk Trail, its usage and its relationship to new development north of the trail right-of-way will also be presented at Council at this same meeting, September 12.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 Doors Open St. Marys, September 30, 2017

Doors Open St. Marys is scheduled for Saturday, September 30, 2017.

Volunteers are needed at most sites for shifts of approximately two hours, morning or afternoon. Any committee members who can help should contact Amy Cubberley who is coordinating the volunteer schedule.

Larry Pfaff's tour of Westover will begin at 11 a.m. that day and will be publicized in advance so that Doors Open participants and visitors will know about it.

Janis Freed, in cooperation with the BIA, is creating story boards to place in the windows of downtown businesses, outlining each building's history and inviting visitors inside.

11. UPCOMING MEETINGS

9 a.m., Saturday, October 14, 2017, at the St. Marys Museum

12. ADJOURNMENT

THAT the meeting of the St. Marys Heritage Committee adjourn at 9:35am.

CARRIED

Larry Pfaff, Chair