



## MINUTES

### Heritage St. Marys

October 14, 2017

9:00am

St. Marys Museum

177 Church Street South

Members Present: Paul King  
Stephan Habermehl  
Mary Smith  
Michelle Stemmler  
Janis Fread  
Member Regrets: Larry Pfaff  
Sherri Gropp  
Councillor Pope  
Mayor Al Strathdee  
Staff Present: Amy Cubberley, Museum Curator/Archivist

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Stephen Habermehl in the chair called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

#### 2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None declared.

#### 3. AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Moved By** Michelle Stemmler

**Seconded By** Janis Fread

THAT the October 14, 2017 Heritage St. Marys Committee meeting agenda be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. DELEGATIONS**

None

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

From the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration inviting nominations for the June Callwood award for voluntarism.

**6. AMENDMENT AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**Moved By** Mary Smith

**Seconded By** Janis Fread

THAT the minutes of the Heritage Committee meeting of September 9, 2017 be accepted.

**CARRIED**

**7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

Covered under subsequent items.

**8. REGULAR BUSINESS**

**8.1 Heritage Conservation District Update**

Trisha has left word that the owners of properties within the HCD have received notification about the Heritage Property Tax Relief program and their eligibility for that program.

The HCDAC is scheduled to have a meeting Monday evening, October 16.

**8.2 Municipal Register, Part 1 - Designations/designated property matters**

**8.2.1 VIA Station**

Nothing to report.

**8.2.2 Junction Station**

There was a great deal of interest in the Junction during Doors Open. Apparently work to repaint the woodwork and sign is scheduled as part of the regular facilities maintenance program.

**8.2.3 McDonald House**

Nothing to report. No information has been received by this committee regarding expressions of interest to purchase this designated building.

**8.2.4 Andrews Jeweller**

Several committee members had met the new owner of the Andrews building at a recent museum seminar and reported that he has many enthusiastic ideas for the restoration and use of this landmark building.

**8.2.5 Public Library**

Nothing to report.

**8.2.6 Old Water Tower**

Nothing to report.

**8.3 Municipal Register, Part 2 - List of significant properties**

No word received on process of notification of property owners.

**8.4 Heritage Grant Applications**

None at this time.

**8.5 Properties of interest or at risk (not necessarily designated)**

**8.5.1 West Ward School**

The new owners appear to have taken possession of the property and have begun some preliminary tidying of the site.

**8.5.2 North Ward School site**

No news about this project. It was noted that the weeds are exceptional in height and variety.

**8.5.3 Wellington Street Bridge**

Proceeding on schedule with work on the deck is underway.

**8.5.4 Repairs to Flood Wall**

See Agenda Item 9, Council Report.

**8.6 CHO Report**

The next CHOnews, soon to be released, will have an article about the rebirth of the Guild Inn in Scarborough, now restored and serving as a luxury event centre with hundreds of weddings already booked for the site.

Paul has written an article for the Journal Argus about the cenotaph and the late Richard Holt's stellar work to research the stories behind each of these names. He has written a similar article for Acorn, the Architectural Conservancy's publication. Janis Fread suggested that Victoria Holt would appreciate receiving a copy of the Journal Argus article.

#### **8.7 Homeowner/Property owner letters**

Paul has written an article for the Journal Argus about the cenotaph and the late Richard Holt's stellar work to research the stories behind each of these names. He has written a similar article for Acorn, the Architectural Conservancy's publication. Janis Fread suggested that Victoria Holt would appreciate receiving a copy of the Journal Argus article. Paul suggested adding The Flower Shop and More, 398 Queen Street East and 146 Wellington Street North to the list.

It was also noted that the Taylor house at 214 Elgin Street East has recently been sold although the transaction may not have yet closed. This listed property was built in 1880 for local contractor William Garner. The commercial building at 115 Queen Street East has also recently changed ownership.

#### **8.8 Sign Bylaw**

Nothing new to report. However, it was noted that in spite of at least two property standards complaints and several requests for status updates, the Godfather's Pizza sign, increasingly tattered, remains in place.

#### **8.9 Cultural Planning: Strategic Plan**

In Trisha's absence, nothing to report.

### **9. COUNCIL REPORT**

Submitted by Al Strathdee via email

9.1 Council and administration invite public comments on the current review of the **Official Plan**. (Paul attended the first public meeting and prepared a report - see agenda item 10.1.)

9.2 The public is also invited to review and comment on the **Recreation and Leisure Master Plan** and to attend a walk-in information event, Wednesday, October 18, from 5:30 to 7:30 in the lobby of the Pyramid Recreation Centre. Amy has been involved in the plan review and explained that there will be opportunities for on-line or written feedback. The plan is available on the municipal website. Look under the menu items: Town Services / Publications, Reports and Plans.

9.3 The Town and the UTRCA received \$400,000 in grants for **floodwall repairs**. This is a shared cost project with Upper Thames administering the work. Water levels may be affected. More information will be available in the near future.

As a side story, Amy outlined Upper Thames' Vanni Azzano's quest to date the fish ladder at the east end of the dam. He now knows it was constructed before the 1952 report prepared before the construction of the reservoirs. The very earliest photographs of the dam, however, do not show it. Vanni suspects that it is one of the oldest fish ladders in southern Ontario.

9.4 **Wellington Street Bridge** - on schedule as previously reported.

9.5 **Community Grants** - The Town of St. Marys accepts applications annually from community groups and non-for-profit organizations for grants to help with projects and activities. See the municipal website for more information - application deadline, November 30, 2017.

## 10. **OTHER BUSINESS**

### 10.1 **Official Plan Review**

There was a discussion about the invitation to participate in the review of the Town's Official Plan, currently underway and this committee's responsibility to provide advice from a heritage standpoint. Paul had attended the first public meeting October 10 and circulated a report to committee members. It explains the necessity of an Official Plan, the Key Tasks and Anticipated Completion Dates for the St. Marys review, a list of the discussion papers that will be considered and his early suggestions for Heritage Committee involvement.

It was agreed that Paul would continue to read OPs from other municipalities for comparison purposes. Other committee members will endeavour to read the current plan and to send suggestions to Paul and other committee members. They should also watch the municipal website for updated material, including

submissions. A draft of a possible Heritage Committee submission will be ready for discussion at the November meeting.

It was also agreed that it would be excellent to invite the contracted planner, Mike Stone, to attend a meeting of the Heritage Committee soon - perhaps in December.

#### **10.2 Doors Open Assessment**

Amy and the committee members present, all of whom had participated in this event, September 30, agreed that it had been a tremendous success. Amy is waiting for one or two final counts before she can send a final tally to Doors Open Ontario, but there had been approximately 3500 visits at the 15 official sites. There were several suggestions for improvements that will be forwarded to the Doors Open Committee for the evaluation meeting, October 24.

#### **10.3 Time capsule**

An invitation has been issued to submit suggestions for objects/materials to be included in a Canada 150 time capsule. It will be placed in the concrete wall of the new Wellington Street Bridge. Amy is on this committee and showed a sample of the application form, also available on-line. Mary agreed to be the Heritage Committee representative to help select the best objects to include.

### **11. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 9a.m., Saturday, November 11, 2017 at the St. Marys Museum. This meeting will be over in time for members to attend a service at the cenotaph. The official St. Marys Remembrance Day service will be the preceding Sunday.

### **12. ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:20a.m. on a motion from Janis Fread.

**CARRIED**

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Larry Pfaff, Chair

