



Heritage Stratford Advisory Committee

MINUTES

A meeting of the Heritage Stratford Advisory Committee (HS) was held on Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., electronically.

Committee Members Present: Brian Johnson – Vice-Chair Presiding, Barb Cottle, Jeff Atchison, Laura Dent, Councillor Danielle Ingram, Cambria Ravenhill, Jacob Vankooten, Howard Shubert

Staff Present: Andrea Hachler – Manager of Planning, Miranda Ivany – Planner, Casey Riehl – Recording Secretary

Regrets: Jack West, Robin Thornrose

1.0 Call to Order

Brian Johnson, Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

2.0 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and The General Nature Thereof

None declared.

3.0 Adoption of Previous Minutes

Motion by Cambria Ravenhill

Seconded by Jeff Atchison

THAT the minutes from the Heritage Stratford Advisory Committee meeting dated June 14, 2022, be adopted as printed. Carried

4.0 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

4.1 Blue Plaque & James Anderson Award Update

Cambria Ravenhill reported that the two Blue Plaque presentations took place earlier this summer and the James Anderson Award presentation also took place in July. HS will advertise again for nominations for both these awards later this year.

4.2 Destination Stratford Audio Tours Update

The videos of the Blue Plaque recipients have been sent to Destination Stratford. There is no update on any heritage tours.

4.3 Community Partners & Projects – Cambria Ravenhill

Cambria Ravenhill updated HS that the Friends of the Shakespearean Gardens have been replacing rose bushes in the garden. Next, they will be working on planting peonies that they also received as a donation.

The Downtown Stratford BIA is working with an organization that promotes public art within municipalities (STEPS). They want to align with HS to understand the specific rules of the Heritage Conservation District and any art installations in that area.

Ms. Ravenhill reported that there is a new citizen group that has formed to try to spearhead a development of the Grand Trunk property. They may be in touch with HS in the future.

4.4 Update on Former Perth County Registry Office

Miranda Ivany, Planner, updated HS that the County is exploring options for the building as opposed to demolishing it.

4.5 265 St. David Street Permit Update

This project is currently at an impasse. On June 3, 2022 staff had requested a new application be submitted for a permit. The property owners indicated they no longer want to engage in this process as they have replaced the windows with doors that were not original. Staff will be exploring options and reaching out to the Province for guidance.

5.0 Designation Sub-Committee Update

5.1 Avoncrest Property Designation – 86 & 90 John Street South

Cambria Ravenhill reported that Council voted against designating the Avoncrest property. HS has met with the Hospital and discussed plans and the possibility of maintaining the façade. However, the Hospital would like to move forward with developing the site. Once all the current facilities have been moved out of the building, the Hospital will be looking to obtain a demolition permit.

Howard Shubert reported that a group has been formed to try and save Avoncrest and have permission from the HPPH to make a presentation to their Board this week. The group will try to present the option that there is a middle ground to ultimately find a use for the building.

Laura Dent noted that there is an archaeological component of the Official Plan, which does require archaeological assessments for sites that are within 300 meters of water. It is not clear what would trigger that

assessment, however soil disturbance does occur with demolition activity. HS may want to take a closer look at these particular criteria.

5.2 Non-Designated Properties Register

Miranda Ivany, Planner, reported that the opt-out period for Phase 2 of the non-designated properties register has closed. Of the 63 original properties, 13 have opted out, leaving 50 properties for the register.

HS will explore the idea of re-naming the Non-Designated Properties Register to reflect the significance of the properties. Laura Dent suggested that Stratford could follow London in the naming of the register as a Register of Cultural Heritage Resources, which indicates even properties that are non-designated, have some degree of heritage status. This would be one register that includes non-designated properties and properties designated under Part IV and V. Councillor Ingram noted that there is not a specific outline of how a municipality sets up their register. Waterloo and Kitchener both have two separate registers. One for designated and one for non-designated. The Ontario Heritage Act does not specify how the registers need to be set up, it is up to the individual municipalities. HS will have further discussions regarding the name of the register or registers and whether combining them for Stratford make sense. The lists will require Council approval and be in conformity with the Ontario Heritage Act.

5.3 Update from Designation Sub-Committee

No new updates to be reported.

6.0 Development Services Report

Miranda Ivany, Planner, submitted the September 2022 Development Services Report for HS's information.

7.0 New Business

7.1 Designation Plaque Mounting at Fairgrounds Gate – Cambria Ravenhill

Cambria Ravenhill reported that when the Fairgrounds Gate was designated in 2019, a plaque was ordered and received, however was never installed due to the pandemic. She would like to decide where to have the plaque mounted during the Fall Fair this year. Staff has put in a request to the Public Works Division to set up a meeting at the site for approval to mount the plaque.

7.2 2023 Heritage Stratford Budget

Motion by Barb Cottle

Seconded by Laura Dent

THAT the Heritage Stratford Advisory Committee requests a 2023 budgetary figure of \$7,725.00 from the City of Stratford, as follows:

- **Heritage Research/Service Contracts (to provide research/writing for property designations, at-risk buildings, properties of interest list, other specific research reports & photography): \$5,000.00**
- **Awards, Plaques, Event & Conference Expenses: 2,500.00**
- **Educational & Outreach expenses Memberships: 225.00**

Carried

7.3 Reminder of Membership Terms Ending on November 14, 2022

Staff reminded Howard Shubert, Cambria Ravenhill, Robin Thornrose, Barb Cottle, and Jack West that their current terms will be ending in November. If members wish to re-apply, application forms are available on the City's website or can be picked up at the Clerk's Office at City Hall.

Cambria Ravenhill thanked Councillor Ingram for all her help and advice as the Council representative for HS. Her support as the Council representative and background as a planner has been very much appreciated and her presence on HS will be missed.

8.0 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Heritage Stratford will be held on Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

9.0 Adjournment

Motion by Barb Cottle

Seconded by Jacob Vankooten

THAT the September 13, 2022 Heritage Stratford Advisory Committee meeting adjourn. Carried

Start Time: 7:09 P.M.

End Time: 8:07 P.M.