



Essex Municipal Heritage Committee (EMHC)

Regular Meeting Minutes

Essex Municipal Building, 33 Talbot Street South, Large Meeting Room–

Wednesday, June 5, 2019 - 5:00 PM

"The EMHC is the resource base for information and knowledge for Council, administration and the community on all matters of heritage"

1. Roll Call

Present: Councillor Steve Bjorkman, Chair
Phil Pocock, Vice Chair
Laurie Kowtiuk
Megan Meloche
Anthony Panicia
Richard Kokovai
Claudette Gauthier

Also Present: Sarah Aubin, Recording Secretary
Elise Geschiere, Heritage Student

Regrets: Rita Jabbour, Staff Liaison
Patti Oshar
Laurel Weber-Renaud
Richard Tapping
Laurie Brett

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

none

3. Adoption of Published Agenda

- a) Wednesday, June 5th, 2019 Special EMHC Meeting Agenda

Moved by Richard Kokovai

Seconded by Phil Pocock

(EMHC-2019-06-06) That the published agenda for the June 5, 2019 Special EMHC meeting, be adopted as presented.

"Carried"

4. Adoption of Minutes

- a) January 31st, 2019 EMHC Regular Meeting Minutes

Moved by Megan Meloche

Seconded by Laurie Kowtiuk

(EMHC-2019-06-07) That the minutes of the January 31st, 2019 Regular EMHC Meeting, be adopted as circulated.

“Carried”

5. Public Presentations

None.

6. Unfinished Business

- a) Greater Marketing and Public Education about Heritage– Ongoing

Steve Bjorkman asks committee members if they have any information on greater marketing and public education opportunities the Committee could take part in.

Elise Geschiere advises the members that she has attended various locations such as Tourism Windsor Essex Pelee Island (TWEPI), local Community Centres and the Carnegie Building to distributed Heritage pamphlets.

Steve asks if the Heritage Committee has a table at the Essex Fun Fest.

Elise advises that there is a general tourism table where Heritage pamphlets are available.

Steve advises that he will contact the Economic Development Officer, Nelson Silveria to discuss the Tourism table and if the committee could place Heritage pamphlets on the table at the Essex Fun Fest, the Colchester Family Fun Day and the Harrow Fair.

He states that this year is 20 years since amalgamation and states that he will speak with the Nelson Silveria, Economic Development Office and Alex Denonville, Manager of Communications on what the committee can do for an event or promotion.

- b) PA Day Heritage Programming–ongoing

Elise advises the members that there is PA day programing in place for June 7th.

She states that the children will be attending the Essex Train Station, and Carnegie Building. She states that a walking tour of the Essex murals would not transpire this year as there is only 1.5 hours available to visit the Train Station and Carnegie Building.

She advises that the children will also receive a heritage colouring book.

Steve asks if we currently do PA Day programing in Harrow Centre and incorporate heritage items into the day.

Elise advises that currently there is no programing in the Harrow Centre.

Steve advises that he will contact Jason Jolicouer, Assistant Manager, Recreation and discuss options for the 2019-2020 school season for PA Day programing out in Harrow Centre.

c) Cemeteries –ongoing

Elise advises that a team of students from the University of Windsor have conducted a geophysics survey at the New Canaan location and anomalies were discovered. She advises that there was a presentation done at the February 19th, 2019 regular Council meeting. She advises that the students believe that there is either a mass grave or a large structure buried at the cemetery.

d) Listing –ongoing

Elise advises the members that property 2547 County Road 20 East was sent an invitation to attend the meeting to discuss listing the property. She advises that no response was received but that administration would like to move forward with a report to list the property.

She also spoke about 345 Talbot St. North and advises that currently herself and Laurie Kowtiuk, have been unable to determine the age of the home.

Phil Pocock advises that the home owners suggest that the property is 200 years old.

Megan Meloche states that we should wait to list the property until concrete information can be provided about its heritage significance.

Elise advises the members that she believes properties at 54, 94, 98, 102 Talbot St in Essex Centre , as well as 138 Albert St on the corner of Medora also have heritage significance and would like to invite the owners to the next meeting to discuss possibly listing the properties.

Moved by: Phil Pocock

Seconded by: Megan Meloche

(EMHC-2019-06-08) That administration prepare a report for council to list 2547 County Road 20 East as a property of Heritage Significance
"Carried"

e) Heritage Designation and Interpretive Plaque Program – ongoing

Elise advises the members that currently they are reviewing heritage designations and interpretive plaque unveilings for 2020. She advises that in the coming year there are many historically significant events such as the McGregor Hamlet celebrating 145 years, Essex Centre celebrating 130 years, the Kowtiuk home celebrating 150 years. She states that it will also be 40 years since the Essex Explosion of February 14, 1980. She states that for 2019 there are no plaques currently planned.

Megan Meloche suggest that a plaque be placed where the geophysics survey occurred at the New Canaan Cemetery that could advise of what anomalies were discovered.

She also suggests that we partner with Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) to plaque the Greenway as there is heritage value along the walking path, she advises of

a cement marker that is hidden under brush on the greenway at paquette corners, she states that could be a location for a plaque.

Elise advises that she is currently speaking with Kevin Money about the Greenway and will discuss that location further and get back to the committee.

Richard Kokovai suggest that we place a plaque at the Essex Appliance Store where Charles Meadel, had the first Pepsi bottling plant in Ontario.

Elise advises that she will be attending the Arts Culture and Tourism (ACT) committee on Wednesday, June 12th about partnering on a mural at the location.

Elise also advises the members that Doug Sweet, Director of Community Services is looking to rename the Essex Community Centre (ECC) and asked that we come up with historically significant people for consideration.

She encourages the members to think of some historically significant names that can be brought forward for consideration.

f) Designation By-Law Revisions –Ongoing

g) Section 33 (15) of the Ontario Heritage Act – Ongoing

Elise advises that she attended a tele conference on the proposed changes of Bill 108 for the Ontario Heritage Act. She advises that she would like to speak about them once they are adopted.

h) Heritage Property Standards By-Law – Ongoing

i) Master Plan for Heritage - Ongoing

j) Cultural and Archaeological Mapping – Ongoing

k) Friends of the Colchester Schoolhouse

Steve Bjorkman advises the members that Council currently does not have any further funding for the Colchester Schoolhouse. He states that they have ensured that the roof, windows and the building is secured from the elements.

Richard Kokovai states that he would like to start a conversation about a “ Friends of” with local residents.

Elise advises the members that during the Colchester Family Fun Day the planning department will be holding an Open House to discuss the Colchester Rezoning of the downtown area from residential zoning to commercial zoning. She advises that the school house would fall under that rezoning, she states that could be something for the “friends of” to consider.

Laurie Kowtiuk suggests that flyers be made and handed out at the Colchester Family Fun Day with regards to a “Friends of”. She states that the flyers could provide information about the initiative and contact information should residents like to join the “Friends of”.

l) Heritage Week 2019

Elise advises the members that heritage week 2019 was a success. She advises that the Facebook posts were all well received, they reached over 92,000 people and there was a huge spike in activity during heritage week.

She advises members that the event at HEIRS was well attended and very informative. She advises that the Committee received six (6) High School student submissions for heritage week.

Sarah Aubin, advises that the faculty staff suggests that we provide them with information about Heritage week prior to October so that they can incorporate the information into their lesson plan.

Megan states that we have waited in previous years to be informed about the theme for heritage week but suggests that we provide information to the teachers about our local historically significant events in 2020.

Sarah advises that the end of the High School year is fast approaching, she advises that administration can prepare a suggestion sheet with upcoming local historical events and distribute them to the faculty at Essex High School, so that they can better prepare for Heritage Week 2020.

Moved by: Anthony Paniccia

Seconded by: Megan Meloche

(EMHC-2019-06-09) That administration prepare and distribute a suggestion sheet for the Essex High School faculty for heritage week 2020.

"Carried"

7. Reports from Administration

None.

8. Correspondence

None.

9. New Business

a) Proposed Amendment to the Ontario Heritage Act

Elise advises that there are changes coming through Bill 108 to the Ontario Heritage Act, but would like to discuss those when they are officially adopted.

b) Colchester Family Fun Day

Elise states that currently there is no heritage events planned for the Colchester Family Fun Day as administration will be putting on the Open House for the Rezoning of the Colchester downtown area.

Steve Bjorkman states that in the years past there was an element of heritage and that we have set an expectation from the residents. He suggests that the committee of the Colchester Family Fun Day look at obtaining a historical guest speaker. He states that Seamus Gunn would be well attended.

Megan advises that should they not be able to secure Seamus Gunn that Chris Carter might be able to attend and speak about the local history.

c) 2019 Summer Student

Elise advises the members that her position is to review the items on the heritage agenda and provide research and information to the committee. She advises that she has been working on the items since she started in May and will continue to do so.

d) Essex Appliance Building Mural

Elise advises that she is attending the Arts, Culture, Tourism (ACT) committee to discuss the mural at the Essex Appliance store.

e) Heritage Walking Tour App

Elise provides members with examples of a printed walking tour pamphlet. She advises the members that an electronic application would be costly to provide. She advises that administration is currently working on a link off of the Tourism Website that would provide a walking tour of the Cemeteries, historical locations, murals as well as other historically significant locations. She advised that it is still a work in progress.

f) Janes Walker

Elise advises that she is currently developing content for a Jane's Walk. She advises that a Janes Walk in 2020 could be completed.

g) Meeting Time

Sarah advises the members that the committee has been unable to meet quorum requirements since January 2019.

She asks the committee members if they would like to discuss a better suited meeting time that would meet their needs.

Richard Kokovai states that administration should send an email to all members requesting a suggested meeting time, and return to the next meeting for discussion.

Moved by: Richard Kokovai

Seconded by: Phil Pocock

(EMHC-2019-06-10) That administration contact members to determine a better meeting time.

"Carried"

h) Local Boards / Committee Procedures and Best Practices

Sarah reminds the members of the Local Boards / Committee Procedures and Best Practices.

10. Adjournment

(EMHC-2019-06-11) That the meeting be adjourned at 6:44 p.m.
“Carried”

Next Meeting Date – Thursday June 27th, 2019 Colchester Community Centre (100 Jackson), 5pm.

Chair

Recording Secretary