



## **Heritage Burlington Advisory Committee Meeting**

### **Minutes**

Date: March 11, 2020  
Time: 7:00 pm  
Location: Room 247, Level 2, City Hall

#### **1. Members Present:**

Howard Bohan (Chair), Michele Camacho, David Barker, Don Thorpe and Rick Wilson

#### **2. Regrets:**

Alan Harrington, Sille Nygaard Mikkelsen and Diane Miller

#### **3. Others Present:**

Steve Robinson (Manager of Urban Forestry), Thomas Douglas (Planner), Councillor Rory Nisan, Danika Guppy (Heritage Planner) and Jo-Anne Rudy (Clerk)

#### **4. Declarations of Interest:**

None

#### **5. Approval of Minutes:**

5.1 Approve minutes from meeting held February 12, 2020

On motion, the minutes from February 12, 2020 were approved as presented.

#### **6. Delegation(s):**

6.1 Anne and Dave Marsden did not appear.

#### **7. Regular Items:**

7.1 Engagement on Official Plan "Taking a Closer Look at the Downtown" project

- Thomas Douglas, Planner, provided some background on the Official Plan "Taking a Closer Look at the Downtown" project and advised that Council endorsed a preferred concept for the downtown in January 2020 and directed staff to do a Heritage Study and report back in Q4 2020. Thomas stated that staff are currently working on developing policies to implement the preferred concept which will be released to the public the week of March 23 and noted the report will go to the Community Planning, Regulation and Mobility Committee meeting of April 14. Members were asked to review the policies, provide their comments to the Chair by March 28 and he will compile and provide comments on behalf of the committee by April 6. **Motion** - Authorize the Chair to provide comments on behalf of Heritage Burlington. - **CARRIED**

## 7.2 Heritage trees

- Steve Robinson, Manager of Urban Forestry, provided some information on the Heritage Tree Program in Ontario which was created in 2009 through Forests Ontario and the Ontario Urban Forests Council. For a tree to qualify, it must be associated with a historic person or event or be growing on historically significant land. Steve advised that there is one heritage tree in Burlington located on Allview Drive that is recognized by the Ontario Urban Forests Council. This oak tree is a distinguishable landmark marking the former border of Burlington and Aldershot and is associated with the area's first landowning settler - Joseph Brant (1742-1807).
- Steve stated that the City has an Honour Roll Tree Program that lists trees that are both culturally and ecologically significant to the community and noted that there are approximately 120 trees listed at the present time. The Honour Roll is currently being updated and the goal is to have an online map of all these trees with updated information and photographs for a virtual tour. Steve noted that these trees each have a placard on it; however, are not protected under the Ontario Heritage Act.
- Steve explained that both the maple tree in Spencer Smith Park and the Roly Bird horse chestnut tree near the Cenotaph were removed due to significant decay and were a safety risk to the public. The maple tree was replaced in 2019 and the horse chestnut tree will be replaced in 2020.

- Committee asked to continue the conversation with Forestry staff about potential ways to identify and protect 'heritage trees'. Steve advised that staff are researching this.

### 7.3 Heritage Planner update

#### a. Around the Bay panel unveiling event

- Danika advised that the Around the Bay interpretive panel, milestone and bench have been installed on the new concrete panel along Plains Road (close to the RBG). An unveiling event is currently being organized and is tentatively scheduled for the morning of Saturday, March 21 with a reception following at West Plains United Church. Heritage Burlington is invited to attend.

#### b. List of Inventory properties over 100 years old

- Danika noted that at last month's meeting, it was suggested that the Committee consider recommending all Inventory-listed properties older than 100 years be placed on the Register and specifically requested that a list be compiled of all Inventory properties with a heritage grade of "B" and "C" that are older than 100 years. Danika advised that upon review of available materials, the vast majority of "B" and "C" properties listed already meet the criteria of being over 100 years of age.
- Danika noted that there are approximately 140 properties with a "B" heritage inventory grade within the Downtown Urban Growth Centre boundary, with roughly 125 being 100 years or older.
- Committee discussed and noted the importance of getting these properties on the Register for interim protection and agreed that communication with property owners is key. **Motion** - Heritage Burlington requests staff to review properties being 100 years of age in the downtown to determine the feasibility of going on the Register and work on a Communication Plan with City Communications staff. **CARRIED**

### 8. Other Business:

- Howard congratulated Don on a successful pub crawl during Heritage Month.
- Rick advised of the Burlington Historical Society presentation held on March 9 with Dr. David Galbraith sharing the history of the Royal Botanical Gardens.

- David asked that the Committee continue to discuss the possibility of significant trees being added to the Heritage Tree Program.
- Don shared that Heritage Month 2020 was very successful and that planning is in the works for next year.

**9. Adjournment: 9:05 p.m.**