Member Motion MM9.22

Notice of Motion

Heritage Evaluation Request for "The Oculus" in South Humber Park - by Councillor Mark Grimes, seconded by Councillor Frances Nunziata

* Notice of this Motion has been given.
* This Motion is subject to referral to the Etobicoke York Community Council. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.

Recommendations

Councillor Mark Grimes, seconded by Councillor Frances Nunziata, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the Senior Manager, Heritage Preservation Services, in consultation with the Director, Parks Development and Capital Projects, to evaluate the Oculus Park Pavilion in South Humber Park, Etobicoke for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act and report to the Toronto Preservation Board and the Etobicoke York Community Council.

Summary

In July 2016, concerned community members became aware that the unique City-owned Modernist Pavilion in South Humber Park, known as the Oculus, was slated for extensive alteration due to safety concerns. Following outreach by the local Councillor, an on-line petition was launched and significant interest was generated.

The City’s Heritage Preservation Services Unit worked with staff from Parks, Forestry and Recreation to evaluate the Oculus for its cultural heritage value and condition and to review proposed changes in the light of the findings. Staff hired a heritage consultant to undertake a Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report to inform the decision-making process. The consultant's report provided extensive background research and concluded that the Oculus Pavilion was worthy of designation under Part IV of the Ontario Act. In addition, site rehabilitation and restoration was endorsed.

To ensure that the site's cultural heritage values and attributes are conserved, and to guide future work in this location, the Oculus Park Pavilion should be reviewed by City Heritage staff to confirm the consultant's findings and to bring forward recommendations to Council as may be appropriate.

Background Information (City Council)

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