

MINUTES OF MEETING

Scarborough Community Preservation Panel (Municipal Heritage Committee)

held by Zoom Conference Call
Tuesday, May 4th, 2021

Present: Rick Schofield Matthew Gregor Carole Whelan
 Patrick Wong Sandy Grigg

Regrest: Bob Saunders

A quorum being present, the Chairman called the meeting to order.
There were no declared conflicts of interest.

1. Minutes of the Previous meeting

S-210501

BE IT RESOLVED

"That the minutes of the previous meeting be approved."

Matthew Gregor Carole Whelan Carried

2. Chairman's Report on Pending Items

S-210502

- (a) Lily Cup commemoration - there has been no response yet from staff *
- (b) Midland park HCD -- staff have not yet dealt with the request *
- (c) Russell Reesor Property @ 18 Reesor Road -- no action taken at this time *
- (d) Vacant and threatened buildings -- list sent to staff for review *
- (e) Properties currently vacant and threatened and/or vandalized.
 - (i) Underwood brick dwelling @ 5933 Steeles Avenue
 - (ii) Stonehouse (family) Regency cottage @ 5951 Steeles Avenue
 - (iii) former Eastville Radar Station @ 1 Eastville Avenue
 - (iv) Highland Creek Lawn Bowling club house @ 4672 Kingston Road
(this property is City owned and has now been boarded up)

* Joe Muller is the contact for our area and has agreed to try and provide some information on the above noted items. However, most staff are working at home due to the Covid-19 Pandemic lockdown and some files are not readily available.

BE IT RESOLVED,

"That the Chairman's report on pending items be received"

Sandy Grigg, Patrick Wong Carried

3.1 Review of Backlog list from 2011 (Recommendations complete)

S-210503

The Chairman circulated an updated list of backlog items which had been submitted to Preservation staff in 2011 and reviewed the progress made to date.

- (i) **The Harris/White dwelling @ 33 Murray Ave**, was finally designated by bylaw # 535-2019
- (ii) **The Edward James Cornell House @ 19 Parkcrest** was sold in 2017 and it has come to the attention of the Chairman that the new owner has possible plans to redevelop the site & demolish the existing dwelling (see item 5a)
- (iii) The recommendation to add the **Eastville Radar building** to the Heritage Register has been noted by staff as “complete” but no further action has yet been taken on the vacant building.
- (iv) The recommendation to add the unique **Sunningdale dwelling @ 37 Presley Ave.** to the Heritage Register has been noted by staff as “complete” but no further action has been taken to list the dwelling which continues to be occupied as a residential building.
- (v) The recommendation to add the former **Highland Creek Lawn Bowling club house** to the Heritage Register as suggested by former Councillor Ron Moeser has been noted by staff as “complete”. This is a City owner property and following several attempts at vandalism, the building was secured by boarding up the windows.

3.2 Review of Backlog list from 2011 (Recommendation still under Review)

- S-210504 The following properties had recommended by the committee for inclusion on the Heritage Register but staff have asked for more details and photographs.
- (a) **Scarborough Animals Shelter @ 821 Progress Ave.** which is currently in use.
 - photographs have been taken but the unique style of architecture requires a review by a qualified heritage architect in order to be properly completed.
 - (b) **Maxwell's Mill site** (ruins) on Twyn Rivers which is abandoned, neglected, and overgrown, with the 19th century stone walls gradually being removed by vandals. Ownership is believed to be the TRCA but has not been confirmed.
 - photographs have been taken and submitted along with a history of the property.
 - No further details appear to be required. Staff have yet to review the recommendation further.
 - (c) **Dunker's Flow** on Lake Ontario is a unique government owned facility. It is a flow balancing system (DFBS) that incorporates a unique twist to the original concept developed by Karl Dunkers. Staff have not requested any further details.
 - (d) **Birch Cliff strip of stores** built in 1922 appears to have several owners @ 1662-1678 Kingston Road. Since the committee's recommendation to add the site to the Heritage Register ten years ago, several of the stores have fallen into various states of disrepair and the site is gradually deteriorating and may be subject to demolition as part of the Kingston Road revitalization project. The entrance at 1662 has a plywood boarded doorway. Number 1672 appears to be under renovations. The lower level facades of several other stores have recently been changed and the 12 the unique hanging "globes" have all been removed in the past few years. With the properties across the road recently demolished for condos, the 1922 Birch Cliff strip of stores appears to be a case of demolition by neglect. The committee will review its recommendation at its next meeting.

BE IT RESOLVED

"That the report of the Backlog List of Requests to add properties to the Heritage Register be received and that the committee members review each property prior to the next meeting for any possible further recommendations.

Patrick Wong, Sandy Grigg Carried

4. Updates From the Preservation Board

- S-210505 Matthew Gregor, the Chairman's designate on the Toronto Preservation Board outlined some of the recent discussion at the Board, none of which related to Scarborough items.

BE IT RESOLVED:

"That the verbal report from the Preservation Board representative, Matthew Gregor, be received."

Matthew Gregor, Carole Whelan Carried

5 (a) Communications: Frederick James Cornell House @ 19 Parkcrest Drive

S-210506 The Chairman reported that the Frederick James Cornell house at 19 Parkcrest had been sold in 2017 and a neighbour reported that he believes the owner is a developer who plans to redevelop the property and demolish the original 1920s dwelling faced with beach stones. The street was initially called Park Avenue which hampered original research. The building was on the committee's 2011 list of recommended additions to the Heritage Register but mistakenly identified as the J. C. Cornell house.

The Chairman notified Preservation staff of the possible threat of demolition and a staff members has been assigned to fully research the property for possible addition by Council to the Heritage Register. With the help of Cornell family members, the Chairman will conduct a thorough research of the property from ownership connections (Cornell > Cockshutt > Stephen Lewis et al) and staff will add the required details and architectural descriptions.

BE IT RESOLVED

" That the committee recommend that the Frederick James Cornell House be recommended for designation under the terms of the Ontario Heritage Act and well as the usual listing on the Heritage Register.

Sandy Grigg, Carole Whelan Carried

5 (b) Communications - Report from Council on L'Amoreaux dwelling

S-210507 The Chairman noted that the proposed designation of the L'Amoreaux frame dwelling at 3325 Midland Avenue had been deferred six times dating back to Jan. 16, 2018.

The item was considered again by the Scarborough Community Council on April 23 and was finally adopted with some amendments. (Item SC23.3). It will be considered by City Council on May 5th.

*** The Chairman is pleased to report that following the committee meeting on May 4th,*

City Council adopted this item on May 5, 2021 without amendments and without debate.

5 (c) Communications - Scarboro' Foreign Mission @ 2685 Kingston Road

S-210508 At the last meeting, the Chairman indicated he had visited the site several times in the past and taken many pictures.

The former LACAC had suggested that the original 1923 section of the building be designated under the terms of the Ontario Heritage Act. In consultation with the Catholic church and the property manager at that time, there was strong resistance to possible designation. Since the building was thought to be relatively safe from any demolition in the foreseeable future, the committee took no further action.

Recently a development proposal indicated the Catholic Church wishes to demolish the west wing built in 1958 and replace it with a new Catholic Secondary School to replace the nearby Cardinal Newman High School.

At the last meeting, the committee recommended that Preservation staff monitor the development to ensure that the original Scarborough Foreign Mission building be preserved in its original design and that staff be asked to seek the retention of the original datestone and stained glass windows in the north entrance of the west addition scheduled for demolition. Further that the datestone and the windows be displayed on the site in some appropriate manner.

The Chairman will continue to monitor the development of this historic site and report any progress back to the committee.

6 (a) New Business - Appointment of Panel Members to serve for 2021 and beyond

S-210509 The Chairman reminded committee members that applications to serve on the SCPP have been sent to all members and that action is required by members if they wish to reapply to continue to serve. All those present indicated that they have agreed to reapply.

6 (b) New Business - # 9 Collingwood Street in Agincourt

S-210510 It has come to the Chairman's attention that the dwelling at 9 Collingwood Street in Agincourt is threatened with demolition in order to provide a new access street in the community. Photos of the building were taken and circulated to members of the committee but no further research has yet been conducted. Based on the photographs, committee members could see no special architectural reasons which would support the addition of the property to the Heritage Register.

BE IT RESOLVED

"That the property at #9 Collingwood Street in Agincourt not be recommended for inclusion on the City's Heritage Register."

Carole Whelan, Sandy Grigg Carried

7. **Next Meeting of the Committee**

S-210511 The Chairman reported a proposed "Transportation Master Plan (EA) review of the bridges in the Hillside area which cross the Rouge River." As the report is currently listed as confidential the Chairman could not share the existing date and/or proposals but suggested that the committee members use the usual summer tour to drive to the site of all the bridges to become familiar with their design, structure and condition.

Four of the bridges are currently designated: Sewell's Road suspension bridge (1912)
Hillside pony truss bridge on Meadowvale (1917), Stotts pony truss bridge on Twyn Rivers (1915)
Maxwell's concrete bowstring bridge on Twyn Rivers (1927)

The Milne bailey bridge on Old Finch was constructed after Hurricane Hazel in 1954 and rebuilt in 1988. It is "listed" on our heritage inventory.

Two overhead steel girder RRX bridges are also in the area but can not be listed or designated as they are CPR provincial property.

BE IT RESOLVED

"That the committee tour the area and review all the road bridges in the Hillside area (not including any railway bridges) for possible recommendation(s) to add any structures to the Heritage Register."

Although all the bridges are presumed to be owned by the City, the committee felt that bringing them forward for consideration as heritage structures is still an important aspect of preserving our heritage for current and future City staff and councillors to have awareness of their importance.

Pending the results of any Covid-19 Pandemic lockdown and other possible restrictions, the committee agreed to tour the area on a suitable Saturday in mid to late July.

Tentative dates: Saturday, July 16th or 23rd

Sandy Grigg, Matthew Gregor Carried

8. **Adjournment**

S-210512 There being no further business before the committee,

BE IT RESOLVED:

"That the meeting be adjourned"

Due to the existing Covid-19 Pandemic uncertainties, the next regular scheduled meeting of the committee following the July tour of Hillside, will be held on Tuesday, October 5th, unless there are sufficient new items to warrant an earlier meeting.

note:

Due to the absence of Bob Saunders, discussion of the possible recommendations to include either 31 Agincourt Drive or 5 Ross Ave. on the Heritage Register were deferred.

Carole Whehan Carried