

MINUTES OF MEETING

Scarborough Community Preservation Panel (Municipal Heritage Committee)

Scarborough Archives
Tuesday, Oct. 6th, 2021

Present: Rick Schofield Matthew Gregor
Patrick Wong Sandy Grigg Bob Saunders

Regrets: Carole Whelan

A quorum being present, the Chairman called the meeting to order

1.1 Minutes of the Previous meeting held May 4th, 2021

S-211001 The minutes of the meeting were previously circulated.

This was a Zoom meeting held primarily to deal with 19 Parkcrest Drive in Scarborough Village and 9 Collinwood St. in Malvern.

BE IT RESOLVED

“That the minutes of the meeting held May 4th 2021 be approved”

Sandy Grigg, Matthew Gregor Carried

1.2a Minutes of the tour held Aug. 7th

S 211002 The committee toured the street bridge crossed the Rouge River in the Hillside area.

1. **The Maxwell's bridge** crosses the Little Rouge River on Twyn Rivers Drive
It was built in 1927 and is a Concrete bowstring type with concrete decking and a 5 ton limit.
It is currently designated under bylaw # 25152 and appears to be in good condition although some later paving has broken off.
2. **The Hillside bridge** crosses the Little Rouge River on Meadowvale Ave, north of Finch. It was built in 1917 and is a pony truss type with steel grating and a 15 ton load limit.
It is currently **designated under bylaw # 25153** and appears to be in good condition.
3. **The Stotts bridge** crosses the Rouge River on Twyn Rivers Dr., west of Sheppard Ave. East. It was built in 1915 and is a pony truss type with steel grating and a 5 ton load limit.
It is currently **designated under bylaw # 25154** and appears to be in good condition.
4. **The Sewell's bridge** crosses the Rouge River on Sewell's Road, north of Finch.

It was designed in 1912 by civil engineer Frank Barber and is a three span suspension type with a concrete deck and a 5 ton load limit.
It is currently **designated under bylaw # 25155** and appears to be in good condition. It is believed to be the last remaining vehicular suspension bridge in Ontario and the only one in Toronto. It features two single cables that holds up the 160 foot long bridge, and is still in use by vehicular traffic today. It underwent a thorough restoration in 1980-81, with portions of the bridge, including the original stiffening trusses, being removed and replaced.
An historic plaque is located at the south end of the bridge.

1.2b Minutes of the tour held Aug. 7th (cont.)

S-211002

5. The Milne bridge crosses the Rouge River on Old Finch Avenue. Traffic is controlled by traffic lights. It was built in 1955 after the original was destroyed by Hurricane Hazel in October 1954. It was restored in 1988 and is a panel type bridge with steel grating and a 5 ton load limit. It is currently **listed on the Heritage Register** and in good condition except for the steel grating which is repaired in several places.
An historic plaque has been erected at the south end.

It is currently **“listed”** but because of its historic significance associated with a major, natural disaster (Hurricane Hazel), its construction by the 2nd Field Engineer Regiment of the Canadian Military Engineers and being the last of several such bridges erected after the damage by Hurricane Hazel, it is now recommended that the bridge be designated.

This area is under Federal jurisdiction of Parks Canada since 2019 but the City maintains its ownership and responsibility for the bridges.

A current study underway by Parks Canada may threaten this bridge.

BE IT RESOLVED

“That the Toronto Preservation Board consider the designation of the Milne Bridge”

Sandy Grigg, Matthew Gregor Carried

ACTION: Request the Preservation Board to consider the following: “That the Milne Bridge, currently “listed” on Toronto’s Inventory of Heritage Properties, be designated under the term of the Ontario Heritage Act because of its association with a major, natural disaster and being the last of its type to survive”

2. **Chairman's Report on Pending Items & Updates**

- S-211003 The Chairman reviewed the materials in his report which was circulated
- 2.1 Properties designated since amalgamation (list only
-- Matthew to check on Laurel Ave site
 - 2.2 Proposed Future Listings
-- all members to review list for future discussion
 - 2.3 L'Amoreaux House @ 3315 Midland now designated by-law 606-2021
 - 2.4 Scarboro' Foreign Mission @ 2685 Kingston Rd by-law 605-2021
 - 2.5 F.G Cornell House @ 19 Parkcrest Dr. added to Heritage Register
Matthew to check to ascertain if it's designated yet

BE IT RESOLVED:

"That the Chairman's report be received"

Bob Saunders, Patrick Wong Carried

ACTION: Matthew (as noted above)

3. **Updates from the Toronto Preservation Board**

- S-211004 Matthew noted that there has been little activity relating to Scarborough other than the approval of the designation of the L'Amoreaux property on Midland and the Scarboro' Foreign Mission property.

BE IT RESOLVED

"That Matthew's the report from the Toronto Preservation Board be received."

Matthew Gregor, Sandy Grigg Carried

4. Communications

S-211005 The Chairman circulated various communications received as noted below:

- 4.1 **Christie's cemetery** -- vandalism and repair responsibility
 - two upright monuments knocked over and need repair
 - SCPP asked to make repairs since the cemetery is designated but the Chairman replied that is the responsibility of the cemetery owner not Preservation. The Mall is technically the property owner but the City's Parks Dept. looks after maintenance (grass cutting etc). After lengthy negotiations, the City agreed to look after repairs since there are no known cemetery trustees according to the BAO.
- 4.2 **Midland Park HCD** recommendation - more support in media
 - Preservation staff are not taking any action to create a HCD at this time.
 - Sandy has been in touch with Councillor Crawford but with no response.
 - the committee suggest the Chairman write to Councillor Crawford regarding possible funding for a HCD study. **(see Motion # S-211106)**
- 4.3 **Scarborough Centre Study area**
 - Gary Miedema (Toronto) will provide further detail later but could not attend this meeting
 - Sandy and Matthew agreed to look further into the study to ascertain any heritage concerns.
- 4.4 Concerns expressed about illegal changes to **St. Andrew's sexton's house**.
 - the Chairman reported that he had received information from a site visitor that the front door and windows had been changed and wanted to know if the committee or Preservation had been contacted.
 - the Chairman reported that, once again, the Church had made alterations to a designated property without notifying the City's staff or the committee.
 - the committee suggested that the Chairman bring this to the attention of Preservation staff.

BE IT RESOLVED:

"That the Communications Report be received"

Bob Saunders, Matthew Gregor Carried

4.2 Communications Action: Midland HCD proposal

- S-211006 Following a lengthy discussion regarding the proposed Midland Park HCD and the notice that they have been recommended for yet another award, the committee asked Sandy to contact Councillor Crawford again for his comments. In addition, the committee asked the Chairman write a letter to Councillor Crawford to inquire about the possible funding for a HCD review.

Be it Resolved:

"That the Chairman contact Councillor Gary Crawford to request funding consideration from the City's budget be set aside in order to conduct a HCD study for Midland Park and that Councillor Crawford report back to the committee in a timely manner."

Sandy Grigg, Bob Saunders Carried

5.1a New Business -- Parks Canada

- S-211007 The Chairman circulated a report that he has been communicating with representatives of Parks Canada who are conducting a complete review of all properties (buildings) within their jurisdiction now that they have taken over the area from the Metropolitan Toronto Regional Conservation Authority as of 2019. The Chairman is assisting with a heritage review of each building.

Reesor Road properties now managed by Parks Canada include:

- # 3 **Reesor Road** which is "listed" on City Heritage Register but vandalized & vacant. It is a vertical board frame farmhouse built by **Peter Reesor** about 1868 with additions added later. It is now vacant, boarded up and vandalized.
- City Preservation has no jurisdiction over Federally owned/managed properties but this property was listed prior to it falling under Federal control. Do to its current condition and the fact that Parks Canada does not intend to rent the house again and plans to demolish it to relieve them of any future liability, the committee recommends that the City remove the property from its Heritage Inventory.

BE IT RESOLVED

"That the Preservation Board be requested to remove the "listed" Peter Reesor house at # 3 Reesor Road form the City's Heritage Register.

Sandy Grigg, Bob Saunders Carried.

5.1b New Business -- Parks Canada (cont.)

S-211008

-- # 4 Reesor Road is not on inventory (*detailed research attached*)

The house consists of two sections. The first part is one storey, flagstone rather than fieldstone. It was built by **Winston McQuillen** as a summer home about 1941. This part of the house has a "saltbox" type sloping roof upward east to west. It does not appear to have had a basement.

A long, one storey addition is attached to the south and connecting the two in an irregular shaped "foyer" with exits to both the east and west. The addition has a series of long windows facing east. These are the eastern walls of the foyer and three or four bedrooms. It is now vacant, boarded up and vandalized.

Committee members suggested that the main part might be restored and used by Parks Canada as an interpretive centre in connection with their tours of the park but restoration costs would likely be prohibitive. If funds were available and Parks Canada did offer to restore the main building, it would be worthy of inclusion on the City's inventory due to its unique architectural style.

-- # 9 Reesor Road * (Lot 5, Con. IV) - **John Pearse House and Coach house**

are two fieldstone structures which currently appear to be occupied.

The main two storey dwelling and the adjacent coach house are currently designated under bylaw #22935 and Parks Canada should be encouraged to retain these two fieldstone Pearse buildings and continue to rent them to maintain occupancy and security.

BE IT RESOLVED

"That Parks Canada be encouraged to retain and maintain the two designated stone former Pearse family structures at #9 Reesor Road

** note: There are three buildings on the single driveway leading to the John Pearse house and coach house. These two structures are actually on Lot 5, Concession IV.*

The third building on the same driveway is a 1937 house built by the McIntosh family. It is located on Lot 6, Concession IV. It may be listed as # 11 Reesor Road. It is uncertain to which properties the street numbers refer. Final reference should be to the designation bylaw.

Sandy Grigg, Bob Saunders Carried

5.2 New Business: L'Amoreaux fame house @ 3315 Midland Ave

- S-211009 The committee examined the proposed plan of subdivision for the adjacent property to the now designated L'Amoreaux House at 3315 Midland Avenue. The plans call for fifty townhomes to be built on the large property surrounding the designated L'Amoreaux farmhouse. Sandra Iskandar is the Architect. The current configuration of the four buildings leaves the heritage building isolated from clear view from Midland Avenue. The original property was a corner lot with the designated dwelling set back from Midland Avenue. The committee suggested the relocation of the smaller building facing the side street (South Shields Ave.) to face Midland Avenue would provide the public with a better view of the the designated farmhouse without any impact to the plans to build 50 town homes around the old farmhouse.

BE IT RESOLVED:

“That City Preservation staff and/or City Planning staff arrange a meeting with Sandra Isandar, project architect, including the Chair of the Scarborough Community Preservation Committee and other appropriate personnel to examine a proposal to adjust the site plan for the future town home development planned for 3315 Midland Avenue as it relates to the designated L'Amoreaux dwelling.

Sandy Grigg, Patrick Wong Carried

6 Adjournment

- S-211010 There being no further business before the committee,

BE IT RESOLVED:

“That the meeting be adjourned”

The next regular scheduled meeting of the committee will be at the call of the Chair subject to agenda items and reports requested from staff and others.

Carried