

MINUTES OF MEETING

Scarborough Community Preservation Panel (Municipal Heritage Committee)

Tuesday, October 4th, 2022

Present: Rick Schofield Matthew Gregor Patrick Wong
Sandy Grigg Lorne Atkinson Joseph Guiyab

Regrets: Bob Saunders Raymond Santiago

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

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

S-221001 The minutes of the meeting held May 3rd and comments of the July 5th tour of Thomson settlement were discussed. It was agreed that the tour was an interesting look at various aspects our architectural heritage.

BE IT RESOLVED

“That the minutes of the meeting held May 3rd, 2022 be approved”

Patrick Wong, Matthew Gregor Carried

2. Chairman’s Report on Pending Items

S-221002 The Chairman reviewed the materials dealing with the proposed designation of the **Milne Bridge** on Old Finch Avenue. He noted that he has not heard back from Preservation staff on the recommendation by the committee.

Sean Blank met with the Chairman on May 6th to review and discuss possible renovations to **“Edgemount” at 1 Fallingbrook Road**. The frame house was built by wealthy businessman H.P. Echardt between 1904 and 1907 and the property is currently designated under Bylaw #21571. A further report will be forthcoming once issues have been discussed with the owners.

The West Ellesmere United Church @ 14 Scotswood Road has now been added to the Heritage Register.

3. **Update from the Preservation Board**

S-221003

Matthew noted that there has been little activity relating to Scarborough at the Preservation Board except for the proposed alterations to 125 Sylvan Avenue at the Sept. 20th TPB meeting. He had assumed that the SCPP had been aware of the site from past years when he was not a panel member.

Be it Resolved:

"That the report from Matthew Gregor relating to the Preservation Board meeting be received."

Matthew Gregor, Patrick Wong

4. **Communications - 125 Sylvan Ave**

S-221004

Preservation Board minutes (PB38.6) reported their recommendation to approve alterations at 125 Sylvan Avenue came as a complete surprise to all panel members since that property had never been discussed by the SCPP.

A search of the City's Heritage Register indicated that By-law #1231-2022, dated September 28, 2022 had been passed by Toronto Council without any notice or consultation with the Council appointed Scarborough Panel. Minutes stated that: *"City Council approve the alterations for the McNeel House*

(subject to an intention to designate)...in connection with a renovation of the subject property."

Sandy Grigg questioned how this could happened without even a notice or a request for comments from the Council appointed panel charged with reviewing and recommending properties for designation. Panel members asked why they weren't consulted at all. The Chairman reported that during his 40+ years as Chairman, he had had no communications from anyone regarding the property and in fact had never visited the site. He noted that Heritage Toronto had erected a plaque on the site and he had requested further information from Senior Planner Mary MacDonald in an email dated Sept.12 but had no response. Regardless, if the property's potential as a heritage site has been determined, Sandy wanted to know why the SCPP wasn't contacted for their opinion and an opportunity to at least review the proposed alterations ? When the HPS Research and Evaluation Report was initiated as far back as April, 2022, why wasn't the SCPP asked for input ? While we appreciate the work done by staff, Sandy was concerned about the lack of communication.

BE IT RESOLVED:

"That the Chairman contact Kristen Flood, Planner, Heritage Preservation who apparently was the lead on this project as to why there were no communications between staff and the Scarborough panel.

Sandy Grigg, Patrick Wong Carried

(see also: Preservation Board agenda, item 4.2 on the SCPP Agenda

5.1 New Business - 77 Oakley Dr.

S-221005 The Chairman reported that he had received numerous communications from concerned residents regarding the possible demolition or renovation of 77 Oakley Ave. a property within Midland Park which the SCPP has tried to have designated as a Heritage Conservation District. Sandy Grigg suggested that at least two websites strongly support the protection of the unique Midland Park community and that the Chairman include the two websites* in a communication to the City regarding the proposed changes at 77 Oakley.

The Chairman indicated that he had requested comment from Senior Planner, Mary MacDonald in an email dated August 31 but had not received a reply.

Again, Sandy questioned the lack of communication between Preservation staff and the SCPP, and the need to resolve the problem in a timely manner.

BE IT RESOLVED:

"That the Chairman contact the City Preservation staff to request"

- 1) that a further review of the proposals to demolish and/or alter the property at 77 Oakley be undertaken and**
- 2) that the staff initiate a review of creating a Heritage Conservation District in Midland Park."**

*** websites supporting Midland Park**

*** <http://midmodto.ca/portfolio/midland-park>**

*** <http://www.neighbourhoodguide.com/toronto/scarborough/midland-park>**

Sandy Grigg, Matthew Gregor Carried

5.1.1 New Business: HCD for Midland Park

S-221006 The committee expressed its concern that Scarborough's Mid-Century Award winning Modern Community of Midland Park had not been properly studied and requested that consideration be given to conduct such a study.

Be it resolved:

That the City fund a detailed study of Midland Park with the view of creating a Heritage Conservation District, the first in the Scarborough community."

Sandy Grigg, Lorne Atkinson Carried

5.2 New Business: Alterations to Scarborough Arena Gardens

S-221007 The committee reviewed the proposed renovations and additions to the heritage listed property known as Scarborough Arena Gardens. An email copy of the complete document was reviewed earlier by committee members and excerpts from the document were reviewed during the meeting. It was agreed that the structural actions were necessary and essential to the long-term preservation of the landmark arena.

However, the committee agreed that the building identity should remain as originally named: **Scarborough Arena Gardens** (*in that order*). This follows that pattern of other historic sport facilities. The first arena that was called a garden was Madison Square Garden, which renamed the building from Gilmore's Garden. Additionally, the name 'garden' in the past was associated with large public space for hockey and other events.

"Madison Square Gardens"	"Maple Leaf Gardens" 1931-
"Arena Gardens" c1912 (Mutual St)	"Boston Gardens" 1928-1995
"Galt Arena Gardens" 1922	etc

When an arena is called Gardens it is really a tip of the hat to the great event centers that have come before.

Be it Resolved:

That the short-term Conservation actions noted in the May 2022 Heritage Impact Statement prepared A.R.E.A. Ltd be approved subject to the return of the original name "Scarborough Arena Gardens"

Matthew Gregor, Joeph Guiyab Carried

6. New Business: Renewal of membership with Community Heritage Ontario

S-221008 **Be it resolved:**
"That the Scarborough Community Preservation Panel renew its annual membership with Community Heritage Ontario and that the annual renewal fee of \$ 75.00 be paid."

Matthew Gregor, Patrick Wong Carried

7. Adjournment

S-221009 There being no further business,

BE IT RESOLVED

"That the meeting be adjourned"

The next reguarly scheduled meeting of the committee will be held at the Scarborough Archives facility starting at 7:30 p.m. on **Tuesday, December 4th. 2022.**

Joseph Guiyab Carried