

NORTH YORK COMMUNITY PRESERVATION PANEL

MINUTES 2023 Report No. 9

Date of Meeting: Monday, October 30, 2023

Time: 7 p.m. (by Google Meet)

Present: Alex. Grenzebach (Interim Chair), Eli Aaron, Mitchell Bubulj, Sharon Mourer, Rosanna Iaboni

Regrets: Sam Ghose, Anne-Marie Branch, Reza Safavi

Guests: Geoff Kettel, Elora Garbutt

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement (Alex. Grenzebach)

2023-9-1 Approval of Agenda

Approval of the agenda was moved by Rosanna Iaboni, seconded by Mitchell Bubulj – passed.

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

2023-9-2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Approval of the minutes of the September 25, 2023 meeting were moved by Mitchell Bubulj, seconded by Sharon Mourer – passed.

2023-9-3 Delegations and Presentations

None

2023-9-4 Area-wide items

9.4.1 Bill 23 heritage response

A presentation on Heritage Planning's response to Bill 23 was given at the October Toronto Preservation Board meeting. The Panel members expressed their concerns regarding the effects of Bill 23 and the proposed response. Mitchell Bubulj volunteered to write to Heritage Planning to express our concerns.

9.4.2 Delegated authority to list properties on the Heritage Register

Eli Aaron reported that Heritage Planning has expressed concern regarding the legal implications of delegating authority to list properties on the Heritage Register. Heritage Planning pointed out that the Committees of Adjustment (CofA) tend to disregard heritage recommendations and a spokesperson for the CofAs stated that they need a property to be listed before they can consider its heritage value.

2023-9-5 Site-specific items and properties of interest

9.5.1 Ward 6 York Centre

Downsview Redevelopment

Alex. Grenzebach will attend the November 7 CRG meeting which will be held in the Centennial College aviation facility. Rosanna Iaboni is advocating for a new park to be named after George Neal, a noted pilot and aviation pioneer, who worked for deHavilland for many years. He was inducted into the Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame and was mentioned by the Guinness World Records as the oldest active licensed pilot as of June 2015. In 2016, he died at age 97 in his family home at 12 Alexis Blvd. near Sheppard and Bathurst. This property is listed on the Heritage Register, although incorrectly identified as the "Neil Family Cottage". Mitchell Bubulj suggested that blogTO might publicize his story.

55 Yeomans Road (Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue)

This property had been recognized in the 1997 North York Modernist Inventory and is now threatened by development plans. At its October 10, 2023 meeting, the Toronto Preservation Board (TPB) included 55 Yeomans Road on the Heritage Register. At its October 17, 2023 meeting, the North York Community Council (NYCC), at the request of Councillor Pasternak, deferred the item to its next meeting on November 14, 2023 although Eli Aaron and Geoff Kettel both opposed deferral. Eli Aaron has written to Councillor Pasternak's planning assistant and has not yet received a reply.

9.5.2 Ward 8 Eglinton-Lawrence

43 Kimbark Blvd.

Eli Aaron has followed up twice with building inspectors regarding the demolition of the interior of this listed property without a permit. They claim they can not become involved because there is now no active construction taking place.

9.5.3 Ward 15 Don Valley West

1779-81 and 1783-85 Bayview Avenue (Talbot Quads)

Geoff Kettel reported that mediation will begin shortly. A design review should begin at a later date.

551 Mt. Pleasant Road (Regent Theatre)

Sharon Mourer reported that a case number has been assigned to the Ontario Land Tribunal hearing.

132 Blythwood Road

Eli Aaron reported that Heritage Planning has committed to make a field inspection in the near future.

141 Riverview Drive

The Committee of Adjustment date (regarding severing the property) has yet to be announced.

98 Blythwood Road (Waddington House)

This late 19th century house is one of the oldest in North Toronto and in the Blythwood Road HCD. The owner is proposing changes to the front, sides and rear of the house, including the removal of relatively modern additions. The Panel has requested to be kept informed by Heritage Planning. The CofA hearing will be later in November.

48 Old Yonge Street (Tippet House)

This house, built ca. 1926-34, is currently on the market. From 1934, it was occupied by Basil Tippet who was co-founder and President of the Tippet-Richardson moving company. In 1990, North York identified it as having heritage value.

Eli Aaron volunteered to write a heritage nomination report.

A motion to nominate 48 Old Yonge Street for inclusion on the Heritage Register was moved by Eli Aaron, seconded by Mitchell Bubulj; carried.

9.5.4 Ward 16 Don Valley East

123 Wynford Drive (former Japanese Canadian CC)

No report at this time.

770 Don Mills Road (Ontario Science Centre)

Sharon Mourer has not yet written a letter of support, but Anne-Marie Branch has contacted her with a number of ideas for the letter. Geoff Kettel suggested that the Panel (and/or individual Panel members) should show support by signing a petition available on the internet.

789 Don Mills Road (Foresters Building)

The developer's appeal is currently at the Ontario Land Tribunal.

9.5.5 Ward 17 Don Valley North

75 Talara Drive and 1255 Sheppard Ave. East

There was discussion regarding whether the Panel needed to retroactively approve the heritage nominations for these properties. Rosanna Iaboni spoke in favour. Alex. Grenzebach will review the Panel's minutes.

9.5.6 Ward 18 Willowdale

5151 Yonge Street (old former NY Hydro)

No information was available regarding whether Anne-Marie Branch has written a letter to CreateTO to inform them of the building's heritage value.

2023-9-6 Administrative Items

9.6.1 Panel Financial Report – Future Expenditures

The Panel is currently a member of Community Heritage Organization (CHO) and Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (ACO). Rosanna Iaboni will check that the Panel's ACO membership is paid up for this year.

Alex. Grenzebach moved that the Panel pay \$50 for Anne-Marie Branch's membership (one year) in the Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals (CAHP), seconded by Rosanna Iaboni; passed.

There was discussion regarding the printing of Eli Aaron's Lytton Park walk booklet. Staples production service was suggested as a possibility.

9.6.2 Future Meeting Date (2023)

Next meeting: November 27

9.6.3 Correspondence

None

2023-9-7 New Business

None

2023-9-8 Other Business

9.8.1 Events of Interest

None reported.

2023-9-9 Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.