

Heritage Sub Committee Meeting

Date: Monday, February 24, 2025
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: L.R. Wilson Heritage Research Archives
286 King St, Port Colborne, ON L3K 4H2

Members Present: Cheryl MacMillan, Member
Eric Beauregard, Councillor
Jeffrey Piniak, Member
Joseph (Luke) Brazeau, Member
Bonnie Schneider, Member
Micheal Hili, Museum Board Member

Staff Present: Stephanie Powell Baswick, Director of Museum and Culture
Diana Vasu, Planner
Michelle Vosburgh, Archivist
Anna Carlsen, Archives Assistant

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:57 p.m.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved By Cheryl MacMillan

Seconded By Bonnie Schneider

That the Heritage Subcommittee agenda dated February 24, 2025, be approved as presented.

Carried

3. Disclosures of Interest

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 January 20, 2025, Heritage Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Moved By Jeffrey Piniak
Seconded By Micheal Hili

That the January 20, 2025, Heritage Subcommittee meeting minutes be approved as presented.

Carried

5. Staff Updates

5.1 Heritage Week (February 17-23, 2025)

The staff present highlighted the resources prepared for Heritage Week.

The members present discussed their experience engaging with the Heritage Week resources.

5.2 Firelane 2 Pillars

The Planner summarized the Deputy Fire Chief's opinion that while fire trucks can currently fit through the pillars at the intersection of Firelane 2 and Pinecrest Road, there is a tree growing into one of the pillars that will start to be a concern over time. In response, the Road and Park Operations Manager confirmed the repair of the pillars will be submitted as part of the 2026 budget process.

Councillor Beauregard noted that a report was prepared that outlined the repairs needed for the pillars.

The Chair added that there were concerns regarding fire trucks getting onto Firelane 2 because of the pillars, and that the matter was voted on by Council.

The Archivist stated that the report was from 2022 and recommended relocating the pillars for fire access.

The Committee requested a copy of the report.

The Chair asked what the Committee's next steps are to work towards protecting the pillars.

The Planner stated that the Committee can pass a motion to make a recommendation to Council.

The Chair asked if the pillars at Firelane 1 and 2 should be dealt with at the same time.

Councillor Beauregard suggested that a motion passed by the Committee could recommend staff investigate the Firelane 1 and 2 gates and bring a report to Council.

Moved By Cheryl MacMillan

Seconded By Micheal Hili

That the Heritage Subcommittee recommend that Council direct staff to investigate the ownership of the Firelane 1 and 2 gates and present the next steps forward for investigating and fixing the gates to ensure their preservation and restoration, as per the engineer's report in 2022.

Carried

6. Order of Business

6.1 Former INCO Recreation Hall Heritage Research Report

The Archivist stated that, at the last meeting of the Heritage Subcommittee, there were discussions about the potential sale of 189 Davis Street, which led to the consideration of whether the property has historical significance. The Archivist opined that the property has great cultural and architectural significance and is an important heritage asset.

Moved By Micheal Hili

Seconded By Cheryl MacMillan

That the Heritage Advisory Committee recommend to Council that 189 Davis Street be designated under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Carried

6.2 Draft Alternative Notice Policy

The Planner presented a draft Alternative Notice Policy to allow Planning staff to use the City's website as the official form of notification of potential heritage designations, rather than the print newspaper that the *Ontario Heritage Act* currently requires. The Planner requested the Committee's feedback on the draft policy.

The Committee decided their preference was for the Alternative Notice Policy to be referred to the Museum Board and remain as an internal procedure; accordingly, the Committee highlighted their support of print

newspaper remaining the primary form of notification of potential heritage designations.

6.3 Draft 2025 Heritage Tactical Plan

The Planner presented the draft Tactical Plan and requested the Committee's feedback.

The Chair stated that the Alternative Notice Policy (Goal no. 1 in the draft Tactical Plan) should be removed as one of the goals.

Councillor Beauregard requested that Goal no. 3 (Continue Reviewing Heritage Register) become Goal no. 1, then added that Council believes cleaning up the Heritage Register should be the main goal of the Heritage Committee.

The Archivist stated that the Committee's priorities have had to shift because of the changes to the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Councillor Beauregard suggested that Goal no. 2 (Designate Key Heritage Properties) should become Goal no. 1, then requested that "Heritage Properties" be changed to "Heritage Properties, Structures, and Buildings."

The Archivist suggested that the Committee could consider adding plaquing heritage properties as a new goal, adding that the properties that receive plaques do not need to be designated heritage properties, nor do the plaques need to be complicated (i.e. plaques could be as simple as the estimated/known year of construction and the name of the house).

The Chair agreed with the Archivist, noting that the "Who is Responsible?" portion should be "Planning staff," and the "Timeline" should align with the 2026 budget process.

7. New Business

7.1 Statements of Significance

The Chair requested that Planning staff prepare and present the statements of significance for the properties the Committee has voted to recommend for designation, and that the owner of the property is interested in designating, at the March Heritage meeting.

8. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Chair

Staff Liaison