



The Corporation of the Town of Essex

Essex Municipal Heritage Committee Meeting Minutes

October 24, 2024, 5:00 pm

Harrow and Colchester South Community Centre, 243 McAfee Street

Present: Chair - Basden, Perry
Councillor - Matyi, Jason, Ward 3, Vice Chair
Member - Baldwin, Jacqueline
Member - Connie Clarkson
Councillor - Hammond, Rodney, Ward 4
Member - Kokovai, Richard
Member - Kowtiuk, Laurie
Member - Matyi Linda

Absent: Member - Peters, Grant

Also Present: Rita Jabbour, Manager, Planning Services
Cheyenne Mailloux, Heritage and Planning Intern
Marsha Buchta, Recording Secretary

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request. Please contact the Clerk's Office at clerks@essex.ca or 519-776-7336 extension 1100 or 1101.

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. Vice-Chair, Jason Matyi, arrived at 5:15 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this land is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations (comprised of the Ojibway, the Odawa, and the Potawatomi Peoples), and of the Huron-Wendat Peoples. We value the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original Peoples of Turtle Island who have been living and working on the land from time immemorial.

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest noted at this time.

4. Adoption of Published Agenda

4.1 Essex Municipal Heritage Committee Meeting Agenda for October 24, 2024

EMHC24-10-65

Moved By Richard Kokovai

Seconded By Councillor Hammond

That the published agenda for the October 24, 2024 Essex Municipal Heritage Committee Meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried

5. Adoption of Minutes

5.1 Essex Municipal Heritage Committee Minutes for September 26, 2024

EMHC24-10-66

Moved By Linda Matyi

Seconded By Connie Clarkson

That the minutes of the Essex Municipal Heritage Committee meeting held September 26, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

6. New Business

6.1 Heritage Week 2025

Ms. Rita Jabbour advised Heritage week is designated the third week of February. A theme has not been released yet; but the Town usually creates one for themselves. Ms. Jabbour and Ms. Mailloux suggested Back to the Future as it incorporates the idea of creating the New Draft Official Plan while utilizing cultural characteristics and heritage areas of the past. Information sessions may be held to advise newly designated property owners of incentives available.

7. Unfinished Business

7.1 Greater Marketing and Public Education about Heritage - Ongoing

7.1.1 Update on Tour Date Response - Snider House 179 County Road 50 West

Katherine and William Dowling have closed the Snider House for the Fall and Winter. They will be pleased to offer a Tour in the Spring. Aligning the Tour with the plaque unveiling would be preferable.

7.2 Official Plan Update - Ongoing

Ms. Jabbour informed the Committee that they have extended the deadline for comments on the Official Plan project. There will be a second phase so we can get more feedback from the public. Administration is looking to create cultural heritage policies that go above and beyond provincial legislation. We need to engage with our indigenous communities.

7.3 Heritage Grant Program

7.3.1 Feedback Discussion - Revised Heritage Grant Application submitted to Committee for review

Chair Perry Basden provided a brief overview of the Amherstburg and Kingsville Heritage Grant By-laws stating they align with the documents provided to the Committee for feedback. The Heritage Grant program does allow funds for restoration projects, but residents were having trouble obtaining quotes. The tax rebate program may work in

conjunction with restoration. The details of a Heritage Rebate program can be finalized at a later date.

EMHC24-10-67

Moved By Richard Kokovai

Seconded By Councillor Hammond

That Administration develops a Heritage Grant Rebate program, to provide incentives to Heritage Designated or Listed property owners.

Carried

7.4 Heritage Designation and Interpretive Plaque Program - Ongoing

7.4.1 Snider House - 179 County Road 50 West Plaque Update

Ms. Jabbour is developing the plaque write up which will be submitted to Kathy and William Dowling initially and then to the Committee. Ms. Dowling also submitted a Heritage Farm application, qualifying them as a Platinum Heritage Farm.

7.5 Listing and Designating Properties and Heritage Districts - Ongoing

7.5.1 Update on Heritage Inventory

Ms. Jabbour advised of Notices of Objection received. Administration suggests inviting property owners to a Heritage Committee meeting to discuss information on designation and address their concerns. The next Heritage meeting is November 28, 2024; however, this will not allow enough time to draft a report to Council for consideration, with the Notice of Intention to Designate 120-day deadline. We would need to have the November meeting earlier.

Mr. Richard Kokovai advised the Committee of another property that should be investigated. The Rio Theatre. 10 Talbot Street South

EMHC24-10-68

Moved By Richard Kokovai

Seconded By Jacqueline Baldwin

That the November Heritage Committee Meeting be held on either November 14 or 21, 2024 based on results of a poll to be sent to Committee Members.

Carried

EMHC24-10-69

Moved By Richard Kokovai

Seconded By Laurie Kowtiuk

That the property at 10 Talbot Street South in Essex, previously known as the Rio Theatre, be investigated for the cultural and historical significance attributes.

Carried

7.5.1.1 Notice of Objection - 102 Talbot Street South Update

The owners at 102 Talbot Street South are objecting the Notice citing concerns of Indigenous consultation, settler focus, restrictions placed on property / financial burden and future municipal planning goals.

7.5.1.2 Notice of Objection - 400 County Road 13

The owners of the property are objecting cultural heritage values listed in the letter as alterations have been made to the property. The verandah porch and decorative pillars were added in the 1990's. The roof line was changes from a flat roof in the 1950's and the shuttered windows were replaced within the last few years and decorative plastic shutters have been added. A large renovation was completed in the 2000s changing 1/3 of the exterior of the building from cement cinderblocks to reclaimed brick.

7.5.1.3 Notice of Objection - Ferriss Cemetery

Owners objected Notice of Intention to Designate citing concerns of lack of consultation with owners, deficiencies in research and documentary evidence and negative impacts of designation on property. Concerns with trespassing were noted if property is promoted as a culturally significant area. There is currently no access easement.

7.5.1.4 Huffman Cemetery, 0 Cloverdale Beach 687 County Road 50 East Update

Chair Perry Basden visited the property and provided pictures and further historical details. More research will be completed on the property, including a title search to determine ownership.

7.5.2 Update by Councillor Hammond on the Additional Properties

Nothing to report.

7.5.3 Update on 136 County Road 50 West

Ms. Mailloux was unable to uncover any historically or culturally significant information on the property which would qualify the house for listing or designation. Ms. Jacqueline Baldwin will check the Land Records to determine if relevant information can be provided.

7.6 Cemeteries

7.7 Studies and Master Plans - Ongoing

7.8 Heritage Walking Tour and Digital Component - Ongoing

7.9 Cultural Master Plan - Ongoing

7.10 Historically Significant Name Registry - Ongoing

Connie Clarkson provided names of several Postmaster Generals from 1886

- Joseph Boring

- Daniel Graveline
- Isaac Elford
- Thomas Rush
- William Edgar
- Selina Weldon

Laurie Kowtiuk suggested:

- Edwin Beamon as he saved the history of Essex.

7.11 Cultural Heritage, Indigenous History - Ongoing

7.12 Barn Quilts - Ongoing

7.12.1 Feedback Discussion - Barn Quilt Pamphlet

Mr. Richard Kokovai recommended that the information be updated to say that barn quilts could be any size people wanted, but that they must be square.

7.12.2 Feedback Discussion - Barn Quilt Construction Competition / Display

Mr. Richard Kokovai advised that if there was to be a competition for Barn Quilts, that the prizes should not be awarded out of tax revenue. We have many agricultural businesses, and should be able to get sponsorships.

8. Adjournment

EMHC24-10-70

Moved By Richard Kokovai

Seconded By Councillor Hammond

That the meeting be adjourned at 6:32 p.m..

Carried

9. Future Meetings

Thursday, November 28, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. at Town Hall, Council Chambers, 33 Talbot Street South, Essex, ON.

Chair

Recording Secretary