



Essex Municipal Heritage Committee (EMHC)

Thursday, October 29th, 2020 - 5:00 PM

Location: Electronic Zoom Meeting

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request. Please contact the Planning Department at essexplanning@essex.ca or 519-776-7336 extension 1128

"The EMHC is the resource base for information and knowledge for Council, administration and the community on all matters of heritage"

1. Roll Call

Present:	Laurie Brett, Chair
	Richard Kokovai, Vice Chair
	Phil Pocock
	Laurie Brett
	Richard Kokovai
	Laurie Kowtiuk
	Joseph Lucas
	Claudette Gauthier
	Councillor Steve Bjorkman
	Anthony Paniccia
Also Present:	Rita Jabbour, Staff Liaison
	Sarah Aubin, Recording Secretary
	Sara Smith, IT Technician

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None.

3. Adoption of Published Agenda

- a) That the published Agenda for Thursday October 29th, 2020 EMHC Regular Meeting be adopted

Moved by Joe Lucas

Seconded by Richard Kokovai

(EMHC-2020-10-21) That the published agenda for the October 29th, 2020 Regular EMHC meeting, be adopted as presented.

"Carried"

4. Adoption of Minutes

- a) That the Special Minutes from the Thursday, September 24th, 20 EMHC Regular meeting be adopted.

Moved by Claudette Gauthier

Seconded by Laurie Kowtiuk

(EMHC 2020-10-22) That the special minutes from the September 24th, 2020 Regular EMHC Meeting be adopted as circulated.

“Carried”

5. Public Presentations

None.

6. Unfinished Business

- a) Greater Marketing and Public Education about Heritage– Ongoing

Rita Jabbour, Staff Liaison, asks the members if they have any greater marketing and public education events that they are attending or know of within the community.

She states that given the pandemic she understands that public education is extremely limited.

She advises Richard Kokovai that the Heritage Tour Brochures are being prepared for distribution to the wineries.

- b) Cemeteries –ongoing

Rita advises the members that she has spoken with the Clerks Department who stated that they have budgeted funds for legal purposes in 2021 and that the ownerships of abandoned cemeteries could be a project considered for the new year.

- c) Listing –ongoing

Rita advises that she has looked into the right of way for Ferris Cemetery and states that the location is privately owned. The cemetery is within an agricultural field and it seems that there is no registered right of way from the field access to the cemetery.

She continues to advise that Huffman cemetery doesn't seem to have a registered right of way, however the cemetery is visible from the road unlike the Ferris Cemetery.

She states that the only cemetery that has a registered pedestrian right of way in the Town of Essex favour is the designated Quick Cemetery.

She states that she has spoken with those within the Heritage Planning Network and advises that Kawartha Lakes has many of their cemeteries within farmers' fields and most of those do not have public access. She states that if the landowners have expressed that they would be happy to have pedestrians attending the cemeteries placement of signs and paths have been done to note that access is permissible.

However those land owners that do not want pedestrian traffic place up fences. She states that viewing cemeteries in the same way as designated houses. Designation

does not give members of the public a licence to enter the designated property and look at the house.

Moved by: Laurie Brett

Seconded by: Joe Lucas

(EMHC 2020-10-23) That administration send a letter of intent to list to the Ferris Cemetery property owners and the Huffman Cemetery property owners.

“Carried”

She states she also found out some information with regards to Conservation Easements for the Heritage Village.

She advises after speaking with the Ontario Heritage Trust she found that a voluntary legal agreement between the Heritage Village and the Trust can be done. This would establish mutually accepted conditions that will ensure the preservation of the heritage property.

She continues to explain what the Heritage Village board members will have to provide and do to have the property under a conservation easement with the Ontario Heritage Trust.

She states that this may be an avenue the board may want to go. However she states ownership has to be determined first and then administration can contact them what options are available.

She advises that Heritage Village can also list or designate their property at a municipal level, however the municipality does not have the funds or the contacts like the Ontario Heritage Trust does.

She states that she will contact Heritage Village and advise them of some options. She states she will advise at the next meeting which way the Village would like to proceed.

- d) Heritage Designation and Interpretive Plaque Program – ongoing
- e) Reports to Council
- f) Studies and Master Plans – on going
- g) Friends of the Colchester Schoolhouse – Ongoing
- h) Heritage Week 2021- ongoing

Rita advises that the Heritage Trust has not yet provided a theme for Heritage Week 2021 and suggests that the Heritage Committee consider some themes and provide them at the next meeting for discussion and choosing. She states remember that Heritage week is an opportunity to celebrate our shared heritage, natural, culutural, tangible and intangible. Some milestones noted are 50 years since HEIRS was founded and 140 years for the parish of St Clements church was founded.

Sarah Aubin, Recording Secretary, advises the members that she has spoken with the

Communications Manager, Alex Denonville, with regards to the Heritage 360 website tour. She advises that the locations to do the 360 photos are as follows:

John R Park Homestead, Essex United Church, St Clements Church, New Canaan Cemetery, Colchester School House, and a call to Central Grove Church has provided no luck with a return call at this time.

She states that guest speakers have been contacted. Seamus Gunn stated that he would be available to do a zoom meeting during Heritage Week 2021, and that Elise Harding Davis is also available to speak during Heritage Week via a Zoom Call with regards to the Lost Cemeteries within Essex County.

Rita advises that HEIRS in 2020 had a guest speaker series that was unable to transpire due to COVID-19. She states that she will be contacting them to see if they would be interested in also partaking in a zoom call during heritage week.

Sarah states that at the September meeting the Committee stated that they would like to see a Call for Heritage Memories. A discussion with the Communications manager provided an opportunity to request that the committee once a theme is established review what they would like to receive from members of the public. The Manager of Communications suggested that the committee look at the website Story Crops Org. It is a website that houses recordings of loved ones with their elders discussing their childhood memories, war time memories, and any life events. The website provides for questions that can be asked and may be a way to gather memories.

She states that the schools in the surrounding area have been contacted with regards to the colouring books and she is still waiting to hear back. She states that once a theme is chosen she will commence work on the colouring books.

Laurie Brett, Chair, asks administration to provide the previous list of Heritage Week themes to the Committee so that they can review past themes before the next meeting.

- i) Charles Maedel Commemoration Project –ongoing
- j) Heritage Walking Tour and Digital Component

Rita advises the members that with the assistance of GIS and communications a custom map providing all the listed and designated properties within the Town of Essex will be made. She states that residence will be able to click each listed or designated property and that it would provide further information about that particular location and the historical value behind it. She states that it will be a self-guided tour with information curated by the Town. Similar to the Victoria example, where they identify points of interest and themes for each urban center. Which is something that can be done similarly within Essex. She states Essex Centre could be a theme of Architecture, Colchester could be the settlement areas, and Harrow can be the rich railway history. She states that it can be ever changing and growing.

Steven Bjorkman states that another option could be a biking tour, for those that ride bikes within the rural community. They can ride the trails and follow the map to find historically significant locations.

k) Batten Schoolhouse and Iler Schoolhouse – ongoing

l) Cultural Master Plan – Ongoing

Rita advises that she has placed the Cultural Master Plan on the agenda as an ongoing item as it will be an item for the five year budget.

m) Historically Significant Name Registry – Ongoing

Rita advises that she has placed this item on the agenda to be ongoing as the committee has expressed their desire to start a historical name registry. She advises that this item will be similar to item (a) Greater Marketing and Public Education Opportunities.

7. Reports from Administration

None.

8. Correspondence

None.

9. New Business

a) Century Farms

Rita advises that Member Richard Kokovai contacted her and requested that some research be done with regards to Century Farms and placing the item on the agenda for discussion. She states that the Town of Essex has a number of Century Farms (100 years of same ownership or more) and that with the help of the committee she hopes they can compile a list of those farms and gather some further rural content.

Richard Kokovai states that the community currently does not have a program to recognize century farms and states that he would like to see a program like the walking / biking tour, website with prepared background information on the property and family to bring recognition to those families.

Laurie Brett, states that this is a wonderful idea. She states that Richard Hernamen from HEIRS was compiling a list of historically significant buildings and homesteads prior to his passing. She states she can contact HEIRS to see if she can obtain some of his research for this purpose.

Laurie Kowtiuk states that the McCormick Farms would be a century farm and a place the committee could start.

Anthony Paniccia states that while doing a google search he found under Century Farms there is already an Ontario Program and states he does not want the committee to re-invent the wheel.

Rita, advises that she also did some research prior to the meeting and found that there is a registry with century farms already. She states that the committee can contact the registry to see if any of the local century farms information is within the database and that could be the starting point for our own Municipal Database.

Laurie Brett, asks if Administration can complete this inquiry.

Rita, advises that she will contact the registry and advise of her findings.

b) Proposed Regulations under Ontario Heritage Act

Rita advises Bill 108 proposes changes to the OHA. Regulations were released on Sept 21 and commenting period ends on November 5 through the environmental registry. Changes expected to be proclaimed on January 1, 2021. Updates to the Ontario heritage toolkit are also forthcoming. Many of the proposed regulations are procedural and provide clarity on the new processes

c) Heritage Meeting Schedule 2021

Moved by: Richard Kokovai

Seconded by: Laurie Kowtiuk

(EMHC 2020-10-24) That Heritage Meeting Schedule 2021 be adopted as circulated.

"Carried"

10. Notices of Motion

11. Adjournment

Moved by Anthony Paniccia

Seconded by Steve Bjorkman

(EMHC-2020-10-25) That the meeting be adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Next Meeting Date November 24th, 2020 at 5:00 pm Location: TBD

Chair

Recording Secretary