



Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee March 27, 2019 Minutes
City of Markham
Location: Canada Room

Attendance

Members:

Rob Kadlovski, UBIA, Chair
Harry Eaglesham, Community Rep, Vice
Chair
Wes Rowe, UVA
Stanley Wu, MVC
Tony Lamanna, UBIA
Geoff Pyne, URA
Reid McAlpine, Ward 3 Councillor
Kimberley Kwan, UHS
Peter Miasek
Joseph Cimer, Community Rep
Ken Davis, Heritage Markham
Bill Bilkas, Community Rep

Staff:

Regan Hutcheson, Manager of Heritage
Planning
Niamh O'Laoghaire, Manager, Varley Art
Gallery
Alex Sepe, Committee Clerk

Regrets:

Jim Jones, Regional Councillor
Sylvia Morris, UBIA
Scott Harper, Community Rep
Mary Creighton, Director of Recreation
Services

**The meeting of the Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee convened at 7:06pm
with Rob Kadlovski presiding as Chair.**

1. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None disclosed

Recommendation

That the Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee receive as information the update on amendments to the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act related to disclosures of interest at advisory committee and board meetings.

Moved by Ken Davis
Seconded Kimberley Kwan

Carried

2. Confirmation of Agenda

Moved by Stanley Wu
Seconded by Wes Rowe

That the Agenda for the March 27, 2019 meeting be confirmed, as distributed.

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the February 20th, 2019 Meeting of the Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee

Moved By Harry Eaglesham
Seconded By Stanley Wu

That the Minutes of the Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee meeting held on February 20th, 2019 be adopted, as distributed.

Carried.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

a) Provincial Grant Funding -Potential Projects for Consideration (All members were to offer suggestions at the request of the Ward Councillor)

- Regan Hutcheson, Manager of Heritage Planning, informed the committee that approximately \$50,000 of the Provincial grant has been spent on the public-school gate, there is roughly \$90,000 remaining in the budget for projects on Main Street. Regan proposed using a portion of the funding to install three (3) way-finding signs at the Highway 7 gateway and aerial pathway signs on Main Street.
- Harry Eaglesham, gave a PowerPoint presentation proposing the installation of placard's throughout Main Street Unionville. The placards would encourage walking tours by displaying information about the History of Unionville or Canadian artists. He argued the placards would be an effective way of generating foot traffic on Main Street.
- Kimberley Kwan proposed three alternative ways of using the grant money, the following ideas were mentioned; renovating the staircase at the lower east side parking lot, improving the trail from the west side of the bandstand to Main Street, and restoring the pathway/information signs found throughout Main Street Unionville.
- Bill Bilkas discussed using the money to retain a consultant to conduct an accessibility study on Main Street, in hopes determining any improvements that could be made. The findings would subsequently be presented to council. In addition, he advocated renovating the Main Street entrance signage located on Highway 7. A new sign would serve as a placemaking piece to welcome residents and tourists visiting Main Street Unionville.

5. New Business/ Other Matters

a) Main Street Unionville Streetscape Master Plan – Update (RH) Community Meeting, Heritage Markham, UBIA and UVA feedback

- Regan Hutcheson introduced Niamh O’Laoghaire, the current manager of the Varley Art Gallery. Niamh will be attending future Historic Unionville Committee meetings.
- Regan also informed the committee on YourVoice Markham. YourVoice is an online system where Markham community members can engage and provide feedback on various local issues.
- Regan Hutcheson gave an update on the community meetings with Heritage Markham, UBIA and UVA. Those whom attended the meetings gave feedback on the proposed streetscape master plan. The survey results from the community meeting provided the following findings:
 - Streetscape concept 2 had 55% support;
 - No street parking had 63% support;
 - Increase tree canopy rather than on-street parking had 89% support;
 - Allowing street parking during summertime had 92% support;
 - Improvements to the east laneway such as greening, improved lighting and aisle definition had 87% support;
 - Introducing commercial patio space had 81% support;
 - Implementing coloured stamped asphalt areas had 55% support;
- Those who responded to the questionnaires at the community meetings provided a number of ideas/recommendations, which include the following: reduction of paved areas, constructing some form of piazza on Main Street, allowing pedestrians only on Main Street and near the Fred Varley area, constructing objects with high quality materials especially for winter months and enhancing intersections with coloured asphalt.
- Bill Bilkas inquired about an approximate time of project completion?
 - Councillor Reid McAlpine informed the committee that the detailed design of the streetscape was removed from the 2019 budget. The new goal is to submit the streetscape plan to Council by June 2019, so it can be an item on the 2020 capital budget.
- Tony Lamanna questioned how business owners on Main street can provide comments and direction on the Streetscape design?
 - Regan stated that at the previous UBIA meeting its members did not provide sufficient comments. If UBIA members were interested in providing comments then they could potentially be included in the overall Streetscape plan.
- Tony Lamanna indicated that he preferred concept number 2. However, he would like to shorten the width of the street to 6 metres to allow for more sidewalk space. Tony further stated that he does not enjoy the idea of street furniture as it ‘clutters’ the street. Lastly, he prefers less parking, and possibly altering parking during summer and winter months.
- Bill Bilkas questioned if different lighting configurations would allow for more space on the sidewalk for foot traffic?
 - Regan informed the committee that altering the lighting on Main Street would be very costly as it would require conducting a street light study, digging up old electrical lines and replacing them.
 - Tony Lamanna highlighted that the street light poles can act as bollards for increased pedestrian safety.
- Kimberley Kwan informed the committee that she does not want the cenotaph to be removed.

Motion: That the Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee prefers Streetscape Master Plan Concept 2.

Moved by Harry Eaglesham
Seconded by Peter Miasek

Carried.

b) Gate Project Between Parkview Public School and Main Street

- Regan Hutcheson informed the committee that the City of Markham sent the schoolboard a formal agreement for the construction and use of the gate. The schoolboard put forth a couple of amendments which the City of Markham agreed to.
- The project will begin soon and will be funded with provincial money.

c) Capital Budget 2019 Update

- Councillor Reid McApline stated that the City's capital budget does not have funding for detailed design. Councillor McAlpine will work with the treasurer in an attempt to gather more funding.

d) Crosby Arena Facade Restoration Concept, (e) Main Street Lane Closure and Connection to South, (f) One Way Traffic Loop Concept, (g) New War Memorial Pedestrian Plaza at Crosby Arena. (Bill Bilkas instructed the committee that items D through G be merged as one item)

Pedestrian plaza on Main Street

- Bill Bilkas proposed creating a one-way loop behind the Historic Unionville Curling Club and the hockey arena. To do so, a number of alterations would be required such as, redoing the façade of Crosby arena, demolishing the Unionville skating club administrative office and relocating the Unionville hockey equipment room and office to Angus Glen Arena.

Motion: The City of Markham planning staff will review feasibility of the New Memorial Pedestrian Plaza plan and provide feedback and to the committee.

Moved by: Bill Bilkas
Seconded by: Peter Miasek

Carried

h) Unionville Main Street Entrance at Hwy 7 (Bill Bilkas)

- Bill Bilkas proposed a 'Pylon' or 'Monument' sign to be placed along Highway 7, which would be visible when entering Main Street. Bill outlined that a statement sign would act as a place making piece, citing that retail pylon signs draw 15-20% improvements in store visits.

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- Councillor Reid McAlpine stated that the Markham Gateway Master Plan is being reviewed by City Staff to examine how improvements to existing gateways and investigate the possibility of creating new ones. The Public Art Master Plan is also being developed at the moment which would highlight how to implement public art installations.

Motion: City staff will investigate how to improve the Main Street Gateway entrance and report back to the committee.

Moved By William Bilkas
Seconded By Peter Miasek

Carried.

Motion: City staff will research how public art installations can be incorporated throughout Main Street Unionville and report back to the committee.

Moved By Stanley WU
Seconded By Tony Lamanna

Carried.

i) Issues Related to Carlton Road Traffic Calming Measures

- Bill Bilkas informed the committee this matter will be discussed in detail at another meeting.

j) Agenda Format

- Bill Bilkas would like the committee to brainstorm alternative ways of organizing the Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee Agenda to keep track of the issues discussed so they can be brought up at future meetings.

k) Request for Update on Accessibility Issue on Main Street (Bill B)

- Bill Bilkas inquired if it would be possible for the committee to be updated regarding the overall accessibility of Main Street with respect to AODA standards.
- Regan Hutcheson informed the committee that there is not enough space on Main Street to meet AODA standards.

l) Request for Update on Connectivity – Crosby Park Pathways (Bill B)

- Bill Bilkas inquired if there was any plan in place to improve the connectivity to Crosby Park from Main Street, and also improve the existing path from the small baseball diamond to the back of the arena.

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- Councillor Reid McAlpine informed the committee that project plans to improve pathway connectivity are ongoing.
- Kimberley Kwan questioned if an update on Bylaw enforcement issues along Main Street will be provided during the next committee.
 - Councillor McAlpine stated that he is unsure if an update will be available for next meeting.

6. Adjournment

Moved by Kimberley Kwan
Seconded by Stanley Wu

Carried

The Committee adjourned at 9:12 pm.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at the call of the Chair or held on Wednesday April 17th, 2019.

PARKED ITEMS

- Section 37 Funding
- Metrolinx Train Service Implications
- Paid Parking
- Curling Club Parking Structure
- By-law Enforcement Issues
- Unionville Heritage Centre Secondary Plan
- School Board Consultation (Gate at Parkview PS) - ESSO Site (Highway 7 and Main St)
- Toogood Pond Pavilion Area
- Flag Pole at Bandstand