



Heritage Markham Committee Minutes

Meeting Number: 12
November 8, 2023, 7:00 PM
Electronic Meeting

Members	Councillor Karen Rea, Chair Councillor Keith Irish Councillor Reid McAlpine Ron Blake David Butterworth	Victor Huang Nathan Proctor Tejinder Sidhu David Wilson Elizabeth Wimmer
Regrets	Lake Trevelyan, Vice-Chair Ken Davis	Paul Tiefenbach
Staff	Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning Peter Wokral, Senior Heritage Planner Evan Manning, Heritage Planner	Erica Alligood, Election & Committee Coordinator Jennifer Evans, Legislative Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Karen Rea, Chair, convened the meeting at 7:04 PM by asking for any disclosures of interest with respect to items on the agenda.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

3. PART ONE - ADMINISTRATION

3.1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA (16.11)

A. Addendum Agenda

B. New Business from Committee Members

Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage, added two items to the agenda for Committee discussion including a) Heritage Markham End of Term for Three Members and b) Year-End Celebration.

Moved by Victor Huang
 Seconded by Nathan Proctor

Recommendation:

That the November 8, 2023 Heritage Markham Committee agenda be approved.

Carried

3.2 MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 11, 2023 HERITAGE MARKHAM COMMITTEE MEETING (16.11)

See attached material.

Councillor Karen Rea requested that a point be clarified in the minutes as related to the Committee of Adjustment applications at 44 Rouge Street noting that a question related to rear-yard setback was further answered by Committee member, Ron Blake. The Committee Clerk confirmed this point would be clarified in the minutes.

Recommendation:

That the minutes of the Heritage Markham Committee meeting held on October 11, 2023 be received and adopted.

Carried

4. PART TWO - DEPUTATIONS

Barry Nelson delivered a deputation on Item 6.2 as detailed with the respective item. Barry Nelson and Evelin Ellison delivered deputations on Item 7.1 as detailed with the respective item.

5. PART THREE - CONSENT

5.1 MINOR HERITAGE PERMIT APPLICATIONS

**DELEGATED APPROVAL BY HERITAGE SECTION STAFF
 10 COLBORNE STREET, THORNHILL, 248 MAIN STREET,
 UNIONVILLE, 12 PARKWAY AVENUE, MARKHAM VILLAGE, 141
 MAIN STREET, UNIONVILLE, 7 STATION LANE, UNIONVILLE, 216
 MAIN STREET, UNIONVILLE, 98 MAIN STREET NORTH, MARKHAM
 VILLAGE, 4470 HIGHWAY 7 EAST, UNIONVILLE, 313 MAIN STREET
 NORTH, MARKHAM VILLAGE, 8 BEECH STREET, MARKHAM
 VILLAGE (16.11)**

File Numbers:

HE 23 143521,
 HE 23 142230,
 HE 23 142586,
 HE 23 141905,
 HE 23 143658,
 HE 23 143899,
 HE 23 142414,
 HE 23 144067,
 HE 23 145260,
 HE 23 134242,
 HE 23 136429

Extracts:

R. Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning
 E. Manning, Senior Heritage Planner

Recommendation:

THAT Heritage Markham receive the information on the Minor Heritage Permits approved by Heritage Section staff under the delegated approval process.

Carried

5.2 BUILDING OR SIGN PERMIT APPLICATIONS

**DELEGATED APPROVAL BY HERITAGE SECTION STAFF
 25 COLBORNE ST. (THCD), 53 JOHN ST. (THCD), 27 CHURCH ST.
 (MVHCD), 33 WASHINGTON ST. (MVHCD) (16.11)**

File Number:

HP 23 141658,
 HP 23 119033,
 DP 23 127421,
 DP 23, 142104

Extracts:

R. Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning
 P. Wokral, Senior Heritage Planner

Recommendation:

THAT Heritage Markham receive the information on building and sign permits approved by Heritage Section staff under the delegated approval process.

Carried

6. PART FOUR - REGULAR

6.1 SITE PLAN CONTROL APPLICATION

PROPOSED ALTERATIONS TO A PLACE OF WORSHIP 313 MAIN ST. N., MARKHAM VILLAGE HERITAGE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (16.11)

File Number:
SPC 22 263550

Extracts:
R. Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning
P. Wokral, Senior Heritage Planner

Peter Wokral, Senior Heritage Planner, advised that this item is related to a Committee of Adjustment application for additions to the existing building at 313 Main Street North. Mr. Wokral advised that Heritage Section Staff did not have objections to the proposed additions but do not support the proposed glass railings or replacement of the historic windows of the 1875 church building.

The Committee provided the following feedback:

- Inquired about the objection to the replacement of the windows, asking if the building has been so heavily modified that it no longer represents the original structure. Mr. Wokral advised that while the West-facing elevation had been heavily modified, the North and South elevations are largely intact and discernable as 19th century construction.
- Asked for clarification on Staff's concerns with respect to the proposed glass railings. Mr. Wokral advised that the type of railing being proposed is popular in newer homes and it not typical in historic neighborhoods. Mr. Wokral advised that Staff do not want set a precedent for the use of glass railings in heritage districts and noted that they are also not considered to be bird-friendly.

Recommendation: CAN YOU FIX THE SPACING IN RECOMMENDATION

THAT Heritage Markham has no objection to the proposed additions to 313 Main St. N. from a heritage perspective, subject to the glazing complying with the City's "Bird Friendly" guidelines;

THAT Heritage Markham does not support the proposed glass railings at the front entrance due to the undesirable precedent it would set for the District;

THAT Heritage Markham does not support the proposed replacement of the historic windows of the 1875 church building, and that the elevations be revised to show their retention;

THAT Heritage Markham recommends the removal of unauthorized signage from the west (street facing gable) of the building;

AND THAT final review of the application be delegated to the City, (Heritage Section) staff.

Carried

6.2 REQUEST FOR FEEDBACK – SITE VISIT

PROPOSED DEMOLITIONS – 2023

ROUGE NATIONAL URBAN PARK (16.11)

File Number:

N/a

Extracts:

R. Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning

Graham Seaman, Director, Sustainability and Asset Management

Peter Wokral, Senior Heritage Planner, advised that this memorandum summarizes the site visit facilitated by Rouge National Urban Park Staff held on October 23, 2023. Mr. Wokral advised that the goal of the site visit was to obtain further insight into the properties proposed for demolition and assist in the preparation of recommendations for consideration by Council and Parks Canada.

Barry Nelson, deputant, expressed appreciation for the way the site visit was facilitated and the Committee members participation. Mr. Nelson shared photos of the various properties, particularly aspects that were not easily viewed during the

site visit but that he was able to capture images of. Mr. Nelson expressed interest in meeting with the Architectural Review Sub-Committee to further discuss his personal research and findings regarding the properties.

The Committee provided the following feedback:

- Suggested that a list of the properties be circulated to Committee members for them to provide feedback obtained through the site visit. The Chair indicated that she would send out a request for this input.
- Asked if other research on the properties done by Heritage Section Staff or a summary of such research could be made available to the Committee. Staff noted this had previously been provided in previous agenda packages as well as at the site visit, but would make the information available.

Recommendations:

THAT Heritage Markham receive the meeting notes of the October 23, 2023 Architectural Review Sub-Committee site visit to the 8 heritage resources proposed for demolition within the Rouge National Urban Park.

AND THAT the deputation by Barry Nelson be received.

Carried

7. PART FIVE - STUDIES/PROJECTS AFFECTING HERITAGE RESOURCES - UPDATES

7.1 PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT AND REGULATION

ALTERATIONS TO BUILDINGS USED FOR RELIGIOUS PRACTICES (16.11)

File Number:

N/a

Extracts:

R. Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning

Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage, advised of a proposed amendment by the Provincial government to the Ontario Heritage Act which pertains to Section 33 (individually designated properties). Mr. Hutcheson advised that this change reduces some powers of Council with respect to dealing with individually designated buildings being used for religious practices. Mr. Hutcheson advised

that as part of Bill 139, Council would no longer have the ability to deny or place conditions on alterations to these buildings if the change is required for religious practices. Mr. Hutcheson advised that Heritage Section Staff have a number of concerns including the vague nature of the legislation that could allow for avoidance of maintenance or removal of significant features if the proponent states they are needed to address religious practices. Staff also noted that the legislation is contrary to the overall objective of heritage conservation which is to conserve and protect heritage attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of a building notwithstanding its current use.

Barry Nelson, deputant, expressed concerns that an individual with a large building on their property in a heritage district could apply as a religious institution and not properly maintain the heritage attributes of the property or otherwise alter the structure if undertaken for religious practices. Mr. Hutcheson clarified that the proponent (religious organization) would still need to be classified as a registered charity under the laws of Ontario or Canada, but agreed that it could possibly be interpreted to mean an individual home or other structure.

Evelin Ellison, deputant, expressed concerns that if a building which was previously used for religious practice were to be sold, the new owner could make alterations to the building with our Council consent if the previous use is continued.

The Committee opined that if the religious use of a building changes, the building should be re-zoned. The Committee questioned the problem the legislation is trying to solve and suggested that Council provide feedback to the Environmental Registry expressing concerns with the proposed changes and advising that the City has extensive experience in dealing with alterations to religious buildings and has not encountered difficulty in finding mutually beneficial solutions.

Recommendations:

THAT Heritage Markham does not support the proposed amendment to the *Ontario Heritage Act* and Regulation 385/21 included in Bill 139, Less Red Tape, More Common Sense Act, 2023 as it could result in detrimental impacts to significant character defining heritage attributes on individually designated buildings used for religious practices.

AND THAT the deputations from Barry Nelson and Evelin Ellison be received.

Carried

8. PART SIX - NEW BUSINESS

End of Terms

Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage, shared an update on three members with expiring terms as of November 30, 2023 (Lake Trevelyan, Victor Huang, and Ken Davis). Mr. Hutcheson provided an overview of other members' terms and advised that generally members would stay on the Committee until Council re-appoints them or appoints a new member. Mr. Hutcheson also advised that in reviewing the eligibility of members for the Province's Volunteer Service Awards program, that if Paul Teifenbach remains on the Committee for another year he could be nominated for a five year volunteer service award.

December Heritage Meeting

Councillor Karen Rea, Chair, advised that the December 13th Heritage Markham Committee meeting could be held in person at the Civic Centre to allow members to get together to celebrate the holidays. There was consensus that an in person meeting was supported. Councillor Rea advised that she will email members to solicit feedback on whether a get-together before or after the meeting would be preferred.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Heritage Markham Committee adjourned at 7:55 PM.