



Heritage Markham Committee Minutes

Meeting Number: 1
January 8, 2025, 7:00 PM
Electronic Meeting

Members	Councillor Reid McAlpine, Chair Councillor Karen Rea David Butterworth Richard Huang Victor Huang Steve Lusk	Tejinder Sidhu Kugan Subramaniam Lake Trevelyan Vanda Vicars David Wilson
Regrets	Councillor Keith Irish	Ron Blake
Staff	Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning Peter Wokral, Senior Heritage Planner Evan Manning, Senior Heritage Planner	Rajeeth Arulanantham, Election & Committee Coordinator Jennifer Evans, Legislative Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Reid McAlpine, Chair, convened the meeting at 7:01 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

The Committee consented to move up Item 6.3 at the top of regular section of the agenda.

Recommendation:

That the January 8, 2025 Heritage Markham Committee agenda be approved.

Carried

3.2 MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 11, 2024 HERITAGE MARKHAM COMMITTEE MEETING (16.11)

See attached material.

Recommendation:

That the minutes of the Heritage Markham Committee meeting held on December 11, 2024 be received and adopted.

Carried

3.3 ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS 2025

1) ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

2) SUB-COMMITTEES OF HERITAGE MARKHAM

3) HERITAGE MARKHAM REPRESENTATIVE- OTHER COMMITTEES (16.11)

File Number:

N/A

Extracts:

R. Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning

Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning, advised that he would facilitate the election of Chair and Vice-Chair and explained the nomination process.

Councillor Karen Rea and Steve Lusk were elected as Chair and Vice-Chair of Heritage Markham Committee for 2025 effective January 9, 2025. Councillor McAlpine resumed the role of Chair and continued to the appointments to Sub-Committees of Heritage Markham and for the representatives of Heritage Markham to other Committees.

Recommendation:

THAT Councillor Karen Rea is the Chair and Steve Lusk is the Vice Chair of the Heritage Markham Committee for 2025 effective January 9, 2025;

THAT Kugan Subramaniam, Victor Huang, Councillor Karen Rea, and Councillor Reid McAlpine comprise the Architectural Review Sub-Committee effective January 9, 2025;

THAT Richard Huang, David Butterworth and Kugan Subramaniam are the Heritage Markham representatives on the Heritage Building Evaluation Sub-Committee effective January 9, 2025;

THAT Tejinder Sindhu and Richard Huang are the Heritage Markham representatives on the Doors Open Committee effective January 9, 2025;

AND THAT Lake Trevelyan is the Heritage Markham representative on the Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee effective January 9, 2025.

Carried

3.4 INFORMATION – HERITAGE MARKHAM COMMITTEE 2024 YEAR END SUMMARY AND STATISTICS (16.11)

File Number:

n/a

Extract:

R. Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning

Regan Hutcheson, Manager of Heritage Planning, provided the Committee with a 2024 year-end review highlighting key statistics, milestones, and major accomplishments. Mr. Hutcheson also provided a comparative analysis of the statistics from 2024 to previous years.

The Committee made the following comments:

- Requested for the status of the stalled restoration projects for properties in Markham Heritage Estates. Staff noted that actions are currently being undertaken to address these issues.
- Thanked Heritage Section Staff for their commitment to heritage preservation in the City of Markham and their efforts to support the Heritage Markham Committee.
- Requested clarification if the rezoning of some properties in Markham Village as residential rather than commercial/residential was a mistake and questioned whether this may have occurred in other areas within the Heritage Conservation Districts. Staff indicated that they would investigate.

Recommendation:

That Heritage Markham Committee receive the memo on Heritage Markham Committee 2024 Year End Summary and Statistics, as information.

Carried

4. PART TWO - DEPUTATIONS

Evelin Ellison delivered a deputation on Item 6.3, as detailed with the respective item.

5. PART THREE - CONSENT

5.1 MINOR HERITAGE PERMIT APPLICATIONS

**DELEGATED APPROVAL BY HERITAGE SECTION STAFF
5958 16TH AVENUE, PART IV
53 JOHN STREET, THORNHILL (16.11)**

File Numbers:

24 199308 HE,

24 199345 HE

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 APPROVALS OF BUILDING/SIGN PERMITS
12 PETER ST., 80 GERMAN MILLS RD., 162 MAIN ST. U., 158 MAIN ST.
U. (16.11)**

File Numbers:

HP 24 197988,

AL 24 197629,

AL 23 111297

AL 24 190319

Extracts:

R. Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning

P. Wokral, Senior Heritage Planner

Recommendation:

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

Carried

6. PART FOUR - REGULAR

6.1 PRIORITY DESIGNATION PROJECT UPDATE

REVIEW OF LISTED PROPERTIES WITHIN THE MILLIKEN SECONDARY PLAN AREA FOR DESIGNATION UNDER THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT (16.11)

File Numbers:

N/A

Extracts:

R. Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning

E. Manning, Senior Heritage Planner

Evan Manning, Senior Planner of Heritage, introduced this item by providing a summary of the Priority Designation Project and the matrix used to evaluate and prioritize properties for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act in response to Bill 23. Mr. Manning outlined all the properties that have been designated to-date. Mr. Manning noted that there six properties within the Milliken Centre Secondary Plan area and that based on the current understanding of their cultural heritage significance, staff are not recommending designation at this time but that they should still remain on the Heritage Register. Staff is seeking feedback from Heritage Markham Committee.

The Committee provided the following comments:

- Clarified if the six properties listed in the Staff report are not being designated or if we are deferring designation of those properties to a future date. Staff noted that they were seeking feedback on the properties to determine the Committee perspective and to assist staff with workload planning.

- The possibility of creating a heritage enclave within the Milliken Centre Secondary Plan area to duplicate Markham Main Street and Main Street Unionville.
- Whether these six properties meet the criteria for designation currently. Staff noted that a full evaluation has not been completed.
- The possibility of considering designation as part of a development application and have it incorporated as a condition of a development approval.
- Whether a plaque can be placed on the properties to commemorate their heritage significance if they were not to be designated and the associated Official Plan policies to facilitate commemoration.
- Consideration for creating a new internal list of potential heritage properties once the listed properties on the Heritage Register were removed in 2027 as a result of Bill 200.
- Whether there are other properties that are higher in importance that will be coming forward for designation and why some of properties are ranked lower than others.

Recommendation:

THAT due to other priorities Heritage Markham supports the Staff recommendation to not pursue designation at this time of the following listed properties as part of the Priority Designation Project:

- 30 Old Kennedy (“Clinkinboomer House”)
- 58 Old Kennedy (“MacDowell-Prentice House”)
- 59 Old Kennedy (“McPherson House”)
- 64 Old Kennedy (“Clayton House”)
- 93 Old Kennedy (“Rattle - Simpson House”)

AND THAT these properties be brought back to committee for formal consideration of designation no later than Q2 of 2026.

Carried

6.2 COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT VARIANCE APPLICATION

**25 WILSON STREET, MARKHAM VILLAGE
PROPOSED ONE-STOREY REAR ADDITION (16.11)**

File Numbers:

A/124/24

Extracts:

R. Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning

E. Manning, Senior Heritage Planner

Evan Manning, Senior Heritage Planner, introduced a Committee of Adjustment Variance Application at 25 Wilson Street in the Markham Village Heritage Conservation District for a one-storey, rear addition that is of the same width as the existing house. From a Staff perspective, the addition is not visible from the street and has no adverse impact on the cultural value of the heritage District.

There was a brief discussion from the Committee on the following:

- Whether the subject property or surrounding properties are significant heritage properties within the District. Staff confirmed that adjacent properties were not significant heritage properties but that there were heritage properties on Wilson Street.
- The heritage approval path if the variances for the addition are supported by the Committee of Adjustment.

Mr. Manning confirmed that the approval path begins by securing permission for the building envelope through the Committee of Adjustment for which Heritage Markham will offer comment. Mr. Manning clarified that if the applicant is successful at the Committee of Adjustment, submission of a Major Heritage Permit will then be required for which the Heritage Markham review function is recommended to be delegated to Heritage Section staff.

Recommendation:

THAT Heritage Markham has no objection from a heritage perspective to the proposed variances to enable the future construction of a one-storey rear addition with a deck at 25 Wilson Street.

AND THAT future review of a Major Heritage Permit application, and any other development application required to approve the proposed development, be delegated to Heritage Section staff should the design be substantially in accordance with the drawings as appended to this memo.

Carried

6.3 DEMOLITION PERMIT

11172 WARDEN AVENUE

PROPOSED DEMOLITION- CLAYTON SCHOOLHOUSE (16.11)

File Numbers:

DP 23 110974 and HE 24 199654

Extracts:

R. Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning

P. Wokral, Senior Heritage Planner

Heritage Markham Committee consented to move this item to the top of the Regular Section of the Agenda.

Peter Wokral, Senior Heritage Planner, introduced this item as it relates to a Demolition Permit for the former Clayton Schoolhouse located at 11172 Warden Avenue following a fire that occurred on December 25, 2022. Mr. Wokral advised that Heritage Markham previously reviewed the demolition request on February 8, 2023 and only supported demolition of the non-heritage portions of the building. At that time, the Committee requested that the owner take steps to ensure that the remaining brick structure be protected in hopes of restoration. Mr. Wokral further advised that due to the current condition of the structure, the Owner has applied under the Ontario Heritage Act to demolish the remainder of the building, approval of which requires Council consent. Staff are recommending that due to the current condition of the heritage building, Heritage Markham provide no comment on the demolition application and no objection to the repeal of the designation bylaw should Council ultimately decide to support demolition. Further, Staff recommend that the owner be responsible for erecting a Markham Remembered Plaque to commemorate the significance of the former building.

The Applicant and Owner, Asad Azizi, was in attendance to respond to questions and provided Heritage Markham Committee with images illustrating the historical significance of the Clayton Schoolhouse, and an overview of his ownership and restoration activities over the years. He also noted his issues with his insurance company.

Evelin Ellison, deputant, expressed disappointment regarding the loss of a historic schoolhouse as it was an integral part of the community with a rich history evident in the pictures shared by the Owner. Ms. Ellison also expressed hope that the former heritage building could be rebuilt to its original appearance.

The Committee provided the following feedback:

- There was an expectation that the remaining masonry walls would be protected from elements and reasons were provided by the Owner for why that was not done.
- The possibility of preserving the antique school bell as shown in the photographs.
- The possibility of using QR codes to link to a webpage displaying old photographs that showcase the history and important details of the former Clayton Schoolhouse.
- Whether the Markham Remembered plaque will be required to be kept on the property if the owner sells the land.
- The need to establish a sub-committee to investigate different forms of plaque programs utilizing modern technology.

The Committee expressed disappointment at the loss of this historic schoolhouse due to its architecture and the cultural significance it had to the community. The Committee also empathized with Mr. Azizi on the loss of his family home and thanked him for attending the meeting.

Recommendation:

THAT Heritage Markham is saddened by the current condition of the former Clayton Schoolhouse and lack of action to stabilize the heritage components of the building that survived the fire;

THAT Heritage Markham provides no comment on the Demolition Heritage Permit application seeking the demolition the remaining masonry walls of the Clayton Schoolhouse.

AND THAT if Council supports the removal of the building from the property, Heritage Markham recommends the following:

- No objection to the repeal of Designation By-law 187-82; and;
- The owner be required to provide and install at its cost, an interpretative baked enamel plaque commemorating the history and architecture of the Clayton Schoolhouse with the plaque designed according to the specifications of the "Markham Remembered" program with details of the design and location of the plaque submitted for review and approval of the City (Heritage Section).

Carried

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

7.1 CHANGES TO PROCESSING OF MAJOR HERITAGE PERMIT APPLICATIONS (16.11)

File Numbers:

n/a

Extracts:

R. Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning

Regan Hutcheson, Manager of Heritage Planning, provided a presentation to the Committee regarding updates to the Heritage Services section and the Planning Applications section of the City of Markham website including information about the Heritage Permit Application process and the Online Application Portal (ePLAN).

The Committee made suggestions for improvements to the website and the need for public outreach initiatives to owners of heritage properties.

Recommendation:

That Heritage Markham receive the update on changes to the processing of Major Heritage Permit applications, as information.

Carried

**7.2 UPDATE FROM 50th ANNIVERSARY SUB-COMMITTEE
JANUARY 7 PLANNING MEETING AND SUGGESTIONS FOR
HERITAGE WEEK (16.11)**

File Numbers:

n/a

Extracts:

R. Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning

Councillor McAlpine, Chair, provided a brief update on the meeting of the 50th Anniversary Sub-Committee that was held the night before. The Chair advised that there were list of ideas the Committee is considering and the possibility of a major event to be held in October with the presentation of Heritage Awards.

The Committee discussed the need to expand the target audience of any event beyond those people that already support heritage, and to advertise upcoming events during the Heritage Week display.

The Sub-Committee will be meeting again on January 29, 2025 to further discuss the list of ideas.

Recommendation:

That Heritage Markham receive the update from the Heritage Markham 50th Anniversary Sub-Committee held on January 7, 2025.

Carried

8. PART SIX - NEW BUSINESS

8.1 SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE FEASIBILITY OF QR CODES ON MARKHAM'S HERITAGE PLAQUE (16.11)

Kugan Subramaniam raised a new business item regarding the use of newer technology such as QR codes and suggested that the viability of using QR codes on commemoration plaques for heritage properties be explored by a Sub-Committee of its own or by the 50th Anniversary Sub-Committee.

The Committee expressed interest in the use of QR codes especially with its use having been expanded during the pandemic.

THAT a Sub-Committee of Heritage Markham comprising of Kugan Subramaniam, Richard Huang, and Vanda Vicars explore the feasibility of using QR Codes on Markham's heritage commemoration plaques such as the Markham Remembered plaque program, and report back to the Heritage Markham Committee.

Carried

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Heritage Markham Committee adjourned at 9:35 PM.