



**Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee  
Notes from February 15, 2017**

**City of Markham  
Location: York Room**

Members

Councillor Don Hamilton – Ward 3  
Reid McAlpine, URA  
Joseph Cimer, Community Rep  
Scott Harper, Community Rep  
Kimberley Kwan, UHS  
Wes Rowe, UVA

Staff

Regan Hutcheson, Manager of Heritage  
Planning  
Vanessa Rhodes, Legislative Coordinator

Regrets

Rob Kadlovski, UBIA  
Mark Smith, UBIA  
Bob Stiver, UVC  
Regional Councillor Jones  
Harry Eaglesham, Community Rep  
Tony Lamanna, UBIA  
Templar Tsang – Trinaistich, Heritage Markham  
Shanta Sundarson, Community Rep

Guests

The meeting of the Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee did not convene as quorum was not met.

**1. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

None.

**2. Confirmation of Agenda**

Those in attendance agreed to discuss the items listed on the agenda.

**3. Adoption of the Minutes of the January 18, 2017 Meeting of the Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee**

That the Minutes of the Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee meeting held on January 18, 2017 were not adopted as quorum was not met.

**4. Public Realm Improvements (Tanya Lewinberg)**

Mr. Hutcheson advised the members present that Ms. Tanya Lewinberg, Public Realm Coordinator, was not able to attend the meeting but will try to attend the next meeting. Mr.

Hutcheson indicated that he had met with her and she indicated that her office can only spend money on new projects, not on existing projects. Examples of new projects include – message boards or canopies over the existing exterior washroom doors at the arena.

It was discussed that a URA member supported a message board, but the BIA should ultimately decide where the message board would be located. If the BIA proceeds with a message board, it should be designed to maintain the heritage district character. Members discussed that this should be undertaken as a pilot project, and rules and procedures should be created to identify the type of information that is permissible on the board. The message board would be maintained by a volunteer.

### **Opportunities for Improvements in Unionville**

It was suggested that the Committee identify the public realm needs and wants of the community, and then provide a list to Ms. Lewinberg for possible inclusion in the 2018 Public Realm Budget.

## **5. Business Arising From the Minutes**

### **a) Lifecycle of Vision Committee**

Mr. Hutcheson advised the Committee that as long as the Committee is required, it will continue to exist. Members representing organizations serve until replacement members are identified by the organization. Community members serve until their term is completed (two in November 2017 and two in November 2018)

### **b) By-law Enforcement/Property Standards Information**

Mr. Hutcheson confirmed that 2% of the City's operating budget in 2017 is reserved for By-law Enforcement and Property Standards Enforcement.

A member had asked if the public can view Property Standard Orders that have been issued to specific properties. Mr. Hutcheson advised that according to the Manager of By-law and Regulatory Services, these orders are not public information and therefore cannot be released to the public.

### **c) Public Washroom Consultation with Committee – Deferred until March**

Mr. Hutcheson advised that Staff from Asset Management will attend the next Committee meeting to provide an update regarding the public consultation for public washrooms.

### **d) Improvement Grants/Info to BIA**

Mr. Regan Hutcheson advised the Committee that he attended the Unionville BIA Annual meeting in February and presented the City's grant program and information to the BIA members.

The issue of having a welcome package for new commercial property owners/tenants was discussed.

e) Stiver Mill Gate Issue

The Committee members were advised that a notice sign has been installed advising the public that the boardwalk will be extended to Eureka Drive.

Councillor Hamilton advised the Committee that a Canada 150 grant was obtained by the City, and funds will be used to build the pedestrian boardwalk and pave the parking area. The plans are not finalized, however the work will need to be completed in 2017 to ensure the project qualifies to receive the entire funding. A proposed plan will be brought forward in a couple of weeks, which will be shared with Members of Council. Mr. Hutcheson will reach out to the staff person who is responsible for creating the plan and ask them to advise the committee of the proposed plans.

The Committee members discussed that there is a lack of communication between the City and the Committee regarding plans that are being discussed/introduced in Unionville. For example, the Committee was not advised or consulted that the City would be applying for a Canada 150 grant to build a pedestrian boardwalk or when the work would begin. Mr. Hutcheson advised the Committee that the previous staff liaison from the Community & Fire Services Commission, Mavis Urquart, retired from the City, and at this time the staff liaison position from this Commission has not yet been replaced. The Committee discussed having increased communication regarding the tasks that are being undertaken in the Unionville Heritage District.

f) Curling Club Parking

There was no update available.

g) Committee Work Program for 2017

The following projects/issues were identified at the January meeting for future discussions as possible 2017 priorities:

- Wayfinding Opportunities
- Entrance to Crosby Arena public washrooms
- Secondary Plan
- streetscape plan
- parking issues
- public washrooms

It was noted that the committee needs to have lifecycle discussions with Operations – we need to find out what the lifecycle is for the streetscape

Public washrooms will be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

Reid McAlpine had also sent the following list of possible priorities by email to all members before the meeting:

1. Parking optimization -- prepare a proposal for 2018 budget

2. Issue an RFP in late 2017 to private developers for a PPP regarding redevelopment of the Crosby Arena/Curling Rink site -- in conjunction with the curling club. Proposals to include a hockey rink, curling rink, parking garage, retail, commercial and/or residential.
3. Develop a specific long term plan, including a budget, for Stiver Mill property (area now used by Farmers Market.)
4. Appoint a control architect
5. Design of Parkview/Blacksmith lane linkage
6. Streetscape maintenance
7. Wayfinding improvement (Include portal to Rouge Train system at the top of the stairs?)
8. Improvement of design/access/signage for Crosby Public washrooms
9. Improve signage and access to Stiver Mill public washrooms.
10. Improve facade of Recycling Centre
11. Create entrance and trail to the children's garden from the intersection of Main and Fonthill Creek. Include Creek clean up.
12. Work with region to extend streetscape improvements east along Hwy 7 past Main Street
13. Work with Region and Imperial Oil to add gardens/parkettes to NE and SE corners of Main and Hwy 7.
14. Hwy 7 Gateway PPP
15. Unionville Gardens at NE corner of Main and Carlton

The Committee members discussed the need to prioritize the topics on the list. The members should focus on a smaller number of items that they can successfully achieve in the upcoming year.

Committee members discussed establishing a sub-committee to focus on way-finding with City staff. The sub-committee would report back to the Committee the ideas to enhance way-finding. Reid McAlpine and Kimberley Kwan would like to be on the way-finding/signage sub-committee.

## **6. New Business/ Other Matters**

Ms. Kimberley Kwan stated that the Master Plan should be discussed with the Committee and that the Committee should look at the plan with a focus on the big picture to identify concepts that may not be consistent with the feel/character of the neighbourhood.

The Committee discussed inviting developers to the next meeting so they have an opportunity to present their ideas and discuss their overall vision for the neighbourhood. Committee members noted that they would like to see the developers' site plan and potentially have some input into it.

Mr. Hutcheson advised the Committee of the City's recently created Canada 150 Neighbourhood Engagement Sub-committee. Community groups will be able to apply for funding from the sub-

committee to assist in enhancing neighbourhoods. Further details will be provided on the City's website soon.

a) School Board Consultation on Gate at Parkview PS

Mr. Regan Hutcheson advised that he has not been able to connect with the school board staff contact yet. A member noted that there were ditches on either side of the future gate area which would have to be addressed if this was to be used for special event vehicular traffic.

b) Pattern Book

Mr. Regan Hutcheson advised that he is in contact with a consultant for the pattern book and they are currently in negotiations.

c) Add "Parked Items to end of Agenda for Tracking Purposes

- Section 37 Funding
- Metrolinx Train Service Implications
- Capital Budget 2018 Input

Mr. Hutcheson suggested adding a "parked items" list to the agenda, to assist the Committee in tracking items that have not been addressed, or will be addressed at a future time. Committee members were in favour of this.

**7. Adjournment**

The members of the Historic Unionville Community Vision Committee departed at 9:16 PM.

**8. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on March 17, 2017

An email will be sent to Committee members asking if they would like to proceed with this meeting or cancel it due to March Break.