



**MINUTES FROM THE FIRST MEETING OF THE  
MAIN STREET MARKHAM COMMITTEE IN 2015**

**City of Markham  
Canada Room - Civic Centre**

**January 21, 2015**

Members

Councillor Colin Campbell  
Graham Dewar  
Phil Howes  
Jason McCauley  
Dianne More  
Jennifer Peters-Morales  
Churchill Piggott  
Ardy Reid  
Peter Ross  
Keith Thirgood

Regrets

David Konkle  
Helen Walter

Guests

Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong  
Councillor Karen Rea  
Ken Rudy, Secretary with Markham Village Conservancy

Staff

Regan Hutcheson, Manager of Heritage Planning  
Kiran Saini, Legislative Coordinator, Committee Secretary

The meeting of the Main Street Markham Committee convened at 5:52 PM with Councillor Colin Campbell presiding as Chair. Phil Howes asked that Garbage remain as a regular item on each agenda under updates. Two other matters were added under New Business; 1) Review of Committee Mandate; and 2) Update of Vision Plan from 1999.

**1. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 19, 2014 MEETING OF  
THE MAIN STREET MARKHAM COMMITTEE**

Moved by Graham Dewar  
Seconded by Peter Ross

That the minutes of the Main Street Markham Committee meeting held on November 19, 2014 be adopted as distributed.

**Carried**

## **2. UPDATES**

### **a) Main Street Markham Road Re-Construction – Detailed Design Stage**

#### **i. Current Status of Project – South of Highway 7 Section**

Peter Ross provided an update on the status of the road re-construction project. Two lanes (one northbound and one southbound) have reopened according to schedule. It was noted that old telephone poles are still up because they are pending Rogers and Bell to finish their assessment. Rogers and Bell have indicated that they will finish their work within three weeks. At the intersection of Highway 7 and Main Street Markham, it was noted that an unexpected gas main was discovered and the process of moving it is being calculated. It is expected that the relocation will be completed by April 1, 2015, to allow Dagmar to continue final configurations early in the Spring.

A five-second advanced left turn signal at James Scott has been activated for traffic in the southeast direction of the intersection.

In general, Dagmar will return in early Spring to continue work in the area. The river remains re-channeled and Dagmar will not be permitted to access the river to re-install the alignment until July 1, 2015, as per the Ministry of Environment.

It was noted that staff has also been asked to investigate the option of introducing reversible lanes.

There was discussion on the Esso Gas Station at Highway 7 and Main Street Markham. It was suggested that the Gas Station should endeavor to maintain a heritage appeal to its redesign. Regan Hutcheson advised that Esso has been actively involved with Heritage Planning staff to complete the Site Plan Agreement. It was noted that the Station should include lettering with the words “Markham Village” to indicate entrance into the area.

Discussion ensued on ensuring the words “Markham By-Pass” were attached to any signage referring to the Donald Cousens Parkway. It was requested that Brian Lee, Senior Manager of Special Projects, provide an update on the signage.

#### **b) Main Street Interpretive Project**

Regan Hutcheson provided an update on the interpretive project. The updates as shown by Corporate Communications at the Committee’s meeting in November are now live on the City’s website. There are a number of historical vignettes listed on the website and they fall into three main categories: 1) Vinegar Hill Subdistrict; 2) Markham Village Subdistrict; and 3) Mount Joy Subdistrict. Regan Hutcheson explained each of these vignettes will become interpretive panels for the area and people will be able to access these by using their smart phones or tablet devices.

Moved by Peter Ross  
Seconded by Dianne More

That appreciation and thanks to the Heritage Planning Staff and Corporate Communications be given for their work on the Main Street Interpretive Project.

**Carried**

**c) Incoming Planning Applications**

Regan Hutcheson provided a summary of incoming applications for the following addresses as noted below.

*Site Plan Applications* (96 Main Street Markham); *Committee of Adjustment* (48 George Street); *Heritage Permits* (49 Church Street); *Building Permits* (5954 Highway 7, 48 George Street); and, *Other* (5965 Highway 7).

**d) Garbage**

Phil Howes provided an update on garbage on the streets and indicated that since the new smoking regulations has come into effect, there are significantly more cigarette butts on the streets and sidewalks. There was discussion on the need for smoking containers that may also serve the purpose of waste containers. Jason McCauley advised he will bring a number of samples of smoking/waste containers for the Committee to review. It was noted that a number of heritage-design options should be considered when looking for these types of containers.

**e) Flooding at local business**

Councillor Colin Campbell provided a brief update on the flooding of a driveway at a local business and indicated that the City will review options to either re-level the property or fix the grading and resurface in April 2015.

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

**a) Budget Requests for 2015**

Councillor Colin Campbell indicated Councillor budget requests were due in January, and as a result, any requests from the Main Street Markham Committee will need to be put forward for 2016.

*Extension of Streetscaping North of Bullock Drive*

In response to a question by Churchill Piggott it was noted that this work was not in the 2015 budget request. It will be delayed for a few years.

*Decorative Entrance Feature for the Village*

There was discussion on the concept of an entrance feature from Main Street Markham South to Main Street Markham North. Peter Ross advised that the idea of the entrance is to link the two areas.

Moved by Dianne More  
Seconded by Peter Ross

That Staff be requested to speak with the Public Realm Coordinator, on behalf of the Committee, regarding an entrance feature on Main Street Markham North.

**Carried**

*Metal Barrier Covers*

There was discussion on the concept of covers for the metal barriers associated with the bridge as part of the area's beautification project. Jason McCauley will speak to this matter in further detail at the meeting in February. This could be a potential 2016 capital budget request.

**b) New Committee Members/Volunteer Fair**

Regan Hutcheson advised that the Main Street Markham Committee will have a booth at the Board/Committee Information fair being held on Thursday, January 22, 2015 at the Markham Civic Centre. He encouraged everyone to attend if possible. Peter Ross will represent the Main Street Markham Committee.

**c) Review of Committee Mandate and Update of Vision Plan**

Regan Hutcheson noted that the Committee's mandate is outdated and should be revised to reflect a new mandate. It was also noted that the 1999 Vision Document should be revisited.

Moved by Jason McCauley  
Seconded by Dianne More

That Churchill Piggott, Peter Ross and Keith Thirgood be appointed to a sub-committee to work with staff to review the current mandate and composition of the Main Street Markham Committee; and,

That the sub-committee report back to at a future meeting on any recommended changes for consideration by Council.

**Carried**

**d) New Chair and Vice-Chair**

A new Council was elected in October of 2014 and there was discussion on the selection of a Chair and Vice-Chair for the new term of this Council. As the Committee has two Councillors that are appointed by Council to the Committee, it was suggested that the local Councillor should continue to Chair the meeting and the alternate Councillor will be the Vice-Chair.

Once the appointment of Councillors is endorsed by Council, the Committee will select Council members to these respective positions.

**e) A-frame Commercial Signs**

Councillor Colin Campbell reported that A-frame signs in the commercial area that do not interfere with the street will be left in place. The concept of a heritage-friendly, standardized A-frame is being considered.

**f) Toronto Star Article**

Peter Ross shared a news story with the Committee that he read in the Toronto Star. The article listed Main Street Markham as one of the Greater Toronto Area's most "lifestyle friendly neighbourhoods". The article was entitled "Location, location, location."

**4. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Main Street Markham Committee will be held on February 18, 2015 in the Council Chamber at 5:45 PM.

The Committee will consider moving the March meeting to March 25 due to March Break.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

The Main Street Markham Committee adjourned at 7:00 PM.

**6. PARKED ITEMS**

- a) Master Plan Environmental Sub-Committee
- b) Promotion of Main Street Sub-Committee
- c) Official Plan and Zoning Review Sub-Committee
- d) Parking Authority and Parking Lot Issues
- e) Status of Town Square Feasibility Study
- f) Five-Year Pathway Implementation Program
- g) Main Street Markham Streetscape Implementation/Funding Strategy
- h) Linear Park Main Street South
- i) Morgan Park
- j) Library Square