

**MINUTES FROM THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE
MAIN STREET MARKHAM COMMITTEE IN 2013**

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

September 18, 2013 – 5:45 p.m.

Members

Phil Howes
David Johnson
David Konkle
Jennifer Peters-Morales
Churchill Piggott
Peter Ross
Keith Thirgood
Helen Walter
Councillor Campbell
Diane More
Ardy Reid
Councillor Moretti

Regrets

Jonathon Mingay
Diane Kobelansky

Staff

Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning
Carlie Turpin, Committee Secretary
Linda Irvine, Manager, Parks & Open Space
Development

Guest

Christine Matthews, Markham BIA

The meeting of the Main Street Markham Committee convened at 5:47 p.m. with Councillor Campbell as Chair, who began by asking for any declarations of pecuniary interest with respect to items on the agenda.

1. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 19, 2013 MEETING OF THE MAIN STREET MARKHAM COMMITTEE

It was

Moved by Councillor Moretti
Seconded by Helen Walter

That the minutes of the Main Street Markham Committee meeting held on June 19, 2013, be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

2. UPDATES:

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

i. Current Status of Project

Peter Ross provided an update based on his discussions with Capital Engineering staff. The delays with construction on the east side of Main Street are due to difficulties with utilities combined with design issues. These difficulties have now been resolved and the solution will be available to solve similar problems anticipated on the west side. Street light pole design was problematic due to cylindrical base conflicting with existing underground utilities. The design consultant was required to redesign new concrete slab to support the pole and provide clearance for the utilities.

All light standard pole locations are installed on the east side and power is being installed this week, with lights going up next week. Sidewalk has been poured in certain areas, with the entire area to be completed soon. Interlocking pavers and kill strip should begin installation next Monday. The goal is to begin construction on the west side by Thanksgiving. The west side should go faster due to experience and lessons learned on east side. The overall goal is still to complete work by the end of November. The contractor is working with the City to ensure construction goes ahead as planned. Excavation work is required for interlocking pavers at Robinson intersection.

There have been a number of complaints brought forward in the past few weeks. A meeting was arranged with the contractors to address the issues and ensure the construction is completed for the Festival of Lights. Staff expects a detailed schedule from the contractors soon that will identify how they will accommodate the construction schedule.

As to the area south of Highway 7, Peter reported that the 90% detailed design drawings have been submitted to the City and are being circulated to staff departments for comment. This includes a new bridge design over the Rouge River.

ii. Update on the next Project Liaison Committee

The date of the next PLC is still to be determined.

b) Incoming Planning Applications – R. Hutcheson

Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning, distributed and reviewed the Summary of Planning/Development Applications for the period of July-September 18, 2013.

Update on 158 Main St North: issue has been resolved and the property has been corrected to reflect the approved plan. Work has been completed.

Update on 26 Albert St.: Owner is proceeding with his application for his new garage. An interested party is interested in moving the original building to Markham Heritage Estates.

b) Parkette Maintenance Issue– Linda Irvine

Joseph and Church St. parkettes require some work to refresh them. The Operations Department is responsible for maintaining the parks. A discussion needs to happen amongst all groups (City, BIA, Main Street Committee) to determine how the parks can be updated/refreshed.

c) Update on Linear Park Concept – Linda Irvine

The Linear Park will be on the east side of Main St South adjacent to James Walker Court, south of the Library. A 2014 Capital Budget request has been made for design and construction funding. The proposed park should be aligned with the design and reconstruction currently ongoing on Main St. Urban Design staff will be working with City engineers on the streetscape issues as this section of Main Street is re-engineered as part of the road reconstruction, and Linda will be overseeing the design of the park and ensure it ties into the work being done at Library Square. The intention of the project is to create a green way and a pedestrian gateway to Rouge Park. Committee stressed that the green canopy should remain, as much as possible and reiterated that preserving the green landscape along this portion of Main Street was a key objective in the Environmental Assessment (EA) report. A further update to the Committee will take place in the New Year.

d) Update on Morgan Park Revitalization- Linda Irvine

This project is examining the revitalization of Markham Village's historic park. The project has a technical working committee and has a landscape architect (Landplan Collaborative of Guelph) working on the design. There will be a separate community meeting to discuss the project. Following the community meeting, the finalized design will be presented to Council for approval. An implementation and funding strategy would be required to implement the final concept.

If the concept is supported by the working committee in late September, it can be brought back to this Committee for comment at the October meeting.

e) Update on Library Square Master Plan – Linda Irvine

This project is meant to assist the library in their needs as well as celebrate and commemorate different types of memories: the Veterans through a re-designed cenotaph, memorials related to Evergreen Hospice and as a possible firefighter memorial. The architect hired for this project (Vertech Designs of Toronto) is well known for memorial type projects. There will be a separate community meeting to discuss this project. Following the community meeting, the finalized design will be presented to Council for approval. An implementation and funding strategy would be required to implement the final concept.

If the concept is supported by the working committee in late September, it can be brought back to this Committee for comment at the October meeting. .

f) Interpretive Project - Regan Hutcheson

Currently being worked on by Heritage staff, Corporate Communications and an external editor and a draft of the revised messages and photographs for the web and the interpretive panels should be available to present to the Committee at the next meeting.

3. New Business

a) Committee Membership Expiring

There was a concern that two long serving members of the Committee terms are expiring. The issue of an extension to the current term or reappointment for an additional term was discussed at the committee to allow these members to complete the work related to the redevelopment of the Main Street streetscape. It was noted that Council can appoint members for an additional term if needed for a specific reason such as committee continuity. Staff will look into this and report back at the October meeting.

4. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Main Street Markham Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16, 2013 at 5:45 p.m.

5. Adjournment

The Main Street Markham Committee meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.