



MAIN STREET UNIONVILLE COMMITTEE

Varley Art Gallery, Deacon Room, Markham

April 24, 2013, 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Attendance

Members

Regional Councillor Jim Jones - Chair
Councillor Don Hamilton – Vice Chair
George Iliopoulos (UBIA)
Rob Kadlovski (UBIA)
Ann Laxton (UHS)
Larry Mariani (UBIA)
Brian Brewer (rep. Jeff Morris, URA)
Mark Smith (Alternate – UBIA)
Paul Vasilkovsky (UBIA)

Staff

Regan Hutcheson, Manager Heritage Planning
Stephen Chait, Director, Economic Development
Sandra Tam, Senior Business Development Officer
Kitty Bavington, Council/Committee Coordinator

Consultants

Michael Morrissey, Morrissey Consulting
Rob Goodill, Torti Gallas and Partners Inc.

Absent

Robert Fleischaker (UVC & UVA)
Jeff Morris (URA)
David Nesbitt (Heritage Markham)

The Main Street Unionville Committee convened at 7:05 p.m. with Regional Councillor Jim Jones in the Chair.

Disclosure of Interest – None Declared

Welcome by Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone, and introductions were made. Orientation packages were provided to the members.

1. Approval of the Agenda/ New Business

The Committee briefly discussed the schedule of upcoming events.

2. Review of Committee Mandate and Composition

Regan Hutcheson reviewed the Committee's mandate and composition. It was noted that the official appointment of the members will be made by Council in the near future.

3. Review of Main Street Unionville Precinct Master Plan and Work Program

Michael Morrissey and Rob Goodill, Consultants, gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Main Street Unionville Precinct Master Plan project. They discussed the process and meetings that will be held with City staff and groups that have an interest, to learn what the problems, opportunities, strengths, and issues are.

The charrettes will be a five day process involving presentations and work sessions. They will be consensus-based and open to the public.

Pre-charrette schedule

Monday April 29

- morning intake session and review of current projects, relevant by-laws, overview of the Official Plan
- afternoon walking tour of Main Street Unionville
- evening Public Information Meeting at the Civic Centre (arranged by City planning staff). This will include discussions on the 50/50 restaurant use issue and anything else of interest.

250 invitations have been sent out

Tuesday April 30

- morning intake session with City staff: TRCA, transportation, civil related issues
- meetings with local developers
- consulting team meeting

Charrette (5 days)

The charrette will be held in the Crosby Memorial Arena in Unionville, with a Town-hall style presentation and break-out sessions. City staff have been requested to assist with the required microphones and equipment. The Varley Art Gallery will be used as a reception space for opening and ending sessions.

The charrette schedule will be Wednesday to Sunday to accommodate public participation. It was suggested that the hours be extended as well to further accommodate the public. The city will be posting and advertising the schedules of the meetings to ensure awareness and transparency.

Discussions included:

- Approach to Design by the Consulting team
 - Community Involvement / Charrette Concept
 - Design Precepts
 - Four Stages of the Study Process
 - Stage 1 Discovery/Existing Conditions Analysis
 - Stage 2 Public Outreach Charrette
 - Stage 3 Post Charrette: Preliminary Concept Master Plan
 - Stage 4 – Final Concept Master Plan and Recommendations
- After working on the input, the consultants will make a presentation to Development Services Committee, then will finalize the proposal for presentation to Council

The estimated timeframe for completion is six months, anticipated in October, 2013.

The draft study area was displayed indicating three key areas – village centre; station/Stiver Mill area; and Highway 7 gateway. Consideration will be given to the Markham Live/arena connection. The parameters will be refined during the preliminary meetings. Staff were requested to ensure the consultants confer with York Region regarding the plans for Highway 7 from Sciberras Road, and also consult with the School Boards.

Rouge River Valley was identified as a valuable asset to Main Street for its potential connections and as a formal gateway and orientation centre.

A concern was expressed regarding the lengthy time frame for the vision exercise and the need for immediate changes to the zoning by-laws with respect to permitted uses. It was suggested that the zoning issue could be potentially dealt with separately and in advance of the final Master Plan.

The Committee advised that further information will be provided to everyone regarding the time and location of the walking tour. It was requested that a one-page info sheet to promote the charrette be prepared for distribution at the upcoming Unionville Festival and other opportunities.

It was noted that Markham Council will make any decisions regarding the recommendations of this Committee.

4. Next Meeting Date

To be determined.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.