

HISTORIC SITES COMMITTEE

October 19, 2011

A meeting of the Historic Sites Committee was held in the Admin Room, Central Library at 4:40 p.m. with the following present:

Members: Hilary Bates Neary (Chair), Gina Barber, Arthur McClelland, Margaret Mitchell, Mike Murphy (later), and Jonathan Vance;

Apologies: Scott Courtice, Jason Jordan, Jennifer Nelson, Anne McKillop, Cliff Oliver;

HS11/23 Business Arising from the Minutes - none

HS11/24 New and Continuing Business

LACH proposal

Ms. Bates Neary attended the LACH Committee and expressed the Committee's interest in working with them. A Task Force was struck. Ms. Neary and Mr. Vance along with Mr. Lutman and Ms. VanSas will be meeting on November 16th, 2011.

HS11/24.1 Hamilton Road Project Update

Mr. Vance was appointed liaison between the Hamilton Road Project and the Committee. It may be possible to undertake some fundraising with another organization.

Ms. Mitchell, Mr. Vance and Ms. Neary will meet with Mr. Rhoden, Supervisor, Crouch Branch Library to update him on Hamilton Road area activities after November 16th, 2011.

HS11/24.2 Plaques – Progress Reports

Progress reports on the following plaques will be made at the December 7th meeting:

Crouch Library (Gina Barber), Homister House (Anne McKillop); Oil refining industry (Jennifer Nelson), Spartans (Jonathan Vance, Rumble Trucks (Arthur McClelland); Newmarket Race Track (volunteers).

HS11/24.3 LPL Website Update

Ms. Mitchell has met with Anna Dundas and The Walking Guide will be maintained on a page inside the LPL website. Mr. Vance reported that work was almost complete on the 15 outstanding plaques to be included in the electronic version of the guide.

At 4:50 p.m., Mr. Murphy entered the meeting.

HS11/24.4 Plaques, Wordings Not Completed

Mr. Vance will check if the following wordings have been completed:

1st, 2nd and 3rd canvas of U.W.O.
Margaret Fullarton
Farmer's Advocate.

HS11/25 Minutes of June 8, 2011

It was MOVED by Mr. Murphy and seconded by Mr. McClelland that the minutes from the meeting of June 8, 2011 be approved.

CARRIED

HS11/26 Proposal to commemorate Rev. William Gault

The Committee received a request from Mr. Chen to erect a plaque on Rev. William Gault who united a north and south Presbyterian church in Taiwan. Mr. McClelland provided background information. It was agreed that this suggestion was not within the mandate of the Committee as Rev. Gault did not play an important role in the history of the City. A letter will be sent to Dr. John Chen advising that we will not be proceeding with a plaque.

HS11.26.1 HSC Archives

Ms. Bates Neary and Mr. McClelland have met several times and everything is sorted and files have been weeded. Illustrations for the additional plaques which are part of the Electronic Walking Guide must be completed.

- HS11/27 Plaques
- Oakwood: Finalize Text
- A letter has been sent to the property owner. Ms. Mitchell will follow up with Infotech to see if there is interest.
- HS11/27.1 Albert Templar House: Working on Text
- Two letters have been sent with no reply received. A third letter will be sent.
- HS11/27.2 Dr. Oronhyatekha – Text
- Two letters have been sent with no reply received. A third letter will be sent.
- HS11/27.3 Southwestern Traction Line: Interim Report
- In Mr. Oliver's absence, this is deferred to the next meeting.
- HS11/27.4 London Hydro
- Ms. Barber provided information on the history of London Hydro. Suggested plaque locations might be the hydro shop (Dundas and Wellington).
- HS11/27.5 Municipal Chapter, IODE
- Ms. Bates Neary provided a copy of the motion from the IODE which states:
- That IODE London supports a partnership with Historic Sites Committee (HSC) of the London Public Library Board, with the goal of erecting a plaque at a significant public site supported by research of HSC, to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the London Municipal Chapter, with cost of the plaque shared by both organizations.*
- Work continues on this project.
- HS11/27.6 War of 1812 - Suggestions for Possible Plaques
- Ms. Bates Neary provided information on the London Heritage Council which is coordinating bi-centennial celebrations.

There was discussion of the Commissioners Road site and the question of whether this road was an old stagecoach road. Discussion also included Mr. Simon Zelotes Watson who defected to the Americans during the War of 1812 and took part in some raids on Westminster residents.

There is a plaque already installed on Reservoir Hill. Signal Hill is located on the other side with ceremonial mounds visible from the air.

Ms. Neary will advise the London Heritage Council we are considering a couple of plaques and report back at the December 7th meeting.

It was MOVED by Mr. Vance and seconded by Mr. Murphy that the London Public Library Historic Sites Committee supports the London Heritage Council proposal for funding for the War of 1812 historical recognition.

CARRIED

HS11/28 LACH REPORT

July:

Alteration Permits: 497-499 Central Avenue and 869 Hellmuth Avenue

Designation Application: 14 Rogers Avenue

Statement of Significance: Selby Place, 84 Commissioners Road East

August:

Item of Interest: Mayor's New Year's Honour List

Statement of Significance: 13-15 York Street

September:

Item of Interest: Glanworth Branch Library

October:

Items of Interest: Nancy Tausky's Report on South Street Campus of Victoria Hospital; and wording of Sarnia Road Bridge plaque approved by LACH

Statement of Significance: 719-721 Dundas Street

HS11/29 Other Business

Mr. Ellen Hobin is the new Manager, Marketing and Communications.

Mr. McClelland will be speaking about the first woman president of the society, Madeline Roddick who was a founding member of the Historic Sites Committee on October 20th for the London Historical Society's 110th anniversary.

HS11/30 Upcoming Meetings – 2011

December 7th

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.