



**HERITAGE WILMOT**  
Township of Wilmot

**Heritage Wilmot Advisory Committee**

Minutes of December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Present: Nick Bogaert, Elisia Scagnetti, Marg Rowell, Yvonne Zyma, Patty Clarke, Al Junker, Artem Voytsekhovskiy Tracy Loch (Curator), Councillor Jennifer Pfenning, Harold O’Krafka (Director of Development Services)

Regrets: Scott Williams, Rene Eby, Councillor Barry Fisher

Meeting was held virtually. Meeting started at 6:30 p.m.

**Welcome**

Chairperson Nick Bogaert welcomed the Committee members to the Heritage Wilmot Advisory Committee meeting. He then read the Territorial Acknowledgment.

**Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

None

**Review of Minutes from November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Yvonne noted that the road discussed in the Work Plan discussion should be **Oxford-Waterloo Road** and not Waterloo-Oxford Road.

MOVED by Al

SECONDED by Jenn

ALL in favour

**Business**

**Bridge Street Bridge EA Update**

Nick provided an update to the Committee on the project and consultation underway. He advised a meeting was held with Township staff, who are currently wrapping up the report on the project. The recommendation of the report will be to endorse the EA Study which has concluded the existing bridge should be replaced with a new one. There may be an opportunity to relocate the existing bridge span for another purpose, such as a pedestrian trail section or crossing (in conjunction with a commemorative feature).

**Waterlot update**

Nick and Tracy prepared a letter of support for the owners of the property to be used for their grant application to the WRHF. Tracy has spoken with the owners who have

inquired if anything else could be added to their application to make it stronger. Members of the Committee agreed that mentioning that the building is part of the New Hamburg walking tour would help emphasize its heritage value.

### **Non-Designated Register update**

Marg and Yvonne have been moving forward with cataloguing properties along Snyder's Road. Al mentioned that Gary Beach, a former member of Heritage Wilmot, has done some research on properties within this area and may have photos to share as well. Marg and Yvonne agreed to reach out to Gary for additional information. Marg and Yvonne also visited the Arboretum in New Hamburg to research it as a possibility for future addition to the Non-Designated Register.

Tracy has a list of photographs that will need to be retaken for the Register. Yvonne, Patty, Jenn and Scott have agreed to make arrangement to divide the list between them and to start taking new photographs.

### **Heritage Week Planning**

Tracy informed the Committee that the Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette was open to the idea of having articles supporting Heritage Week. They would like to have 3 to 4 articles of 450-600 words supplied to them. They will also include some larger articles written by their staff.

Sherri Gropp has also agreed to assist with social media post and photographs that will be published each day during Heritage Week.

Tracy is asking for the Committee to assist with the articles and the social media posts. She will circulate an email about possible subjects for these articles.

### **New Business**

#### **CHL Project Update**

Regional staff will be attending the Wilmot Council meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup> to present the findings of the project so far. Tracy will circulate a link to the Council meeting to the Committee when it is available.

#### **1149 Snyder's Road West, Baden: Beckdale Farm Visit**

The Director of Development Services is currently working to obtain access to the property so it can be photographed and documented prior to demolition by Heritage Wilmot. The property owner is waiting for the current tenant to leave, which will be later in December.

#### **1522 Bethel Road, New Dundee (The Bettschen/Hallman/Reier House): Request for advice**

The property owner of 1522 Bethel Road (designated property) is looking to have some repairs done to the wood trim and gingerbread work on the house. She is looking at options to see what can be done and is in the process of obtaining quotes. Tracy has provided her with a list of contractors from the ACO that are able to do work on these heritage features, and she is open to options from the

Committee as well. The Committee agreed that this project would be eligible for a grant from the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation. It was also mentioned that Edifice magazine has a list of contractors they have endorsed for heritage work. They also have seminars on topics such as maintenance of heritage buildings. Tracy can forward a link to this magazine to members of the Committee. Nick and Tracy will contact the property owner so that she can continue to work on obtaining quotes for her work, and anticipate updating the Committee at a future meeting.

**1138 Snyder's Road West, Baden (Wagler Property): Request for advice**

The owner of 1138 Snyder's Road (designated property) is looking to complete some repairs to the front porch, and Patty has agreed to be the main point-of-contact person for the property. Patty is helping to prepare an application to the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation for a grant. She is asking that Heritage Wilmot provide a letter of support for this project. Tracy and Nick will prepare a letter and will send it to the property owner as soon as possible.

**MOTION:** for a letter of support for the restoration and/or renovation of the front porch of 1138 Snyder's Road West in Baden to be submitted with the application to the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation.

MOVED by Patty  
SECONDED by Marg  
ALL in favour

**2022 Work Plan**

Tracy is asking the Committee to provide her with items or projects they would like to do in 2022. She is currently working on the budget and can incorporate these items into the working budget.

The Committee discussed the possibility of another designation for the next year. Possible properties that could be considered are the former school building which is now a residence (the owner has expressed some interest in designation), St. George Anglican Church, and Angie's in St. Agatha.

Marg inquired about the former Baden Hotel (a small white house behind Livingston Presbyterian Church). Since a demolition permit has been submitted, Marg thought it would be important to be able to take photographs of this property before it is demolished.

The Committee also discussed the Cultural Heritage Landscape project that will most likely require some support and work from the Committee.

Members of the Committee were interested in creating a package for owners of designated properties that would provide more information about Heritage Wilmot and what it means to own a designated property. This package would be similar to the one provided to owners of the buildings within the New Hamburg Heritage Conservation District.

Tracy shared with the Committee another work plan project which is the creation of a new coffee table book to commemorate the anniversary of Wilmot Township in 2025 that is part of a capital program. She explained that this book could include history and 'new history' of the Township with photographs. Jenn enquired about information found in the many archeological digs in the area and asked Harold if reports could be shared/circulated to Heritage Wilmot as they could also be an excellent addition to the book. Harold advised that Development Services is happy to circulate them. Jenn further asked if the Director of Public Works also has reports and Harold confirmed he would and that it would be most appropriate for Tracy to follow up with him.

**ACTION:** Tracy to follow up with the Director of Public works re: archaeological reports. Also for Tracy to put together a list of items for the work plan and create a draft that can be reviewed at the next meeting.

### **Correspondence / Info Sharing** **Regional Economic Study**

The Region of Waterloo is currently undergoing an economic study to stop or hold back funding in certain area to accommodate the economic decline. It has been mentioned that the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation may have to pause or stop their grant program. Members of the Committee agreed that the loss of this grant program would be detrimental to the Townships especially because they rely solely on this Regional funding for support. Owners of heritage properties within Wilmot Township would no longer have access to money to support the maintenance of their heritage properties. It was noted that the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation assisted with many projects in the Township such as the restoration of Castle Kilbride and the designation of the New Hamburg Conservation District.

**ACTION:** Nick will look into the possibility of the Committee writing a letter of concern to the Region about the potential loss of the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation's grant program. He will also look into the possibility of the Township applying as a delegate for the budget meeting at Regional Council.

### **New Hamburg Manufacturing Company straw box**

Al was contacted by an individual who is looking to sell a large piece of equipment. Al believes that it is a straw box or straw cutter. The item has the logo of the New Hamburg Manufacturing Company along the side. Tracy asked him put the owner in touch with her as it might be an item of interest for the Township collection. She also noted that the owner could also contact the Waterloo Regional Museum to see if they might have an interest in the piece.

**Adjournment** – 7:48 p.m.  
MOVED by Marg

**Next meeting** – January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 6:30pm