



**HERITAGE WILMOT**  
Township of Wilmot

**Heritage Wilmot Advisory Committee**

Minutes of October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Present: Nick Bogaert, Elisia Scagnetti, Marg Rowell, Yvonne Zyma, Patty Clarke, Scott Williams, Tracy Loch (Curator), Councillor Barry Fisher

Regrets: Artem Voytsekhovskiy, Rene Eby, Al Junker, Councillor Jennifer Pfenning

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 Land Acknowledgment.

**Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

None

**Review of Minutes from September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

MOVED by Yvonne

SECONDED by Barry

ALL in favour

**New Business**

Nick introduced Chris DeGeer, from the University of Waterloo, who is working on the Cultural Heritage Landscape project for Wilmot Township and the Township of North Dumfries. The project has been ongoing, with Chris leading online interviews with participants and conducting fieldwork. Collecting data for the project has proven to be more difficult due to the public health guidelines regarding large group gatherings. He advised that typically, larger group meetings would be held to gather more information. Chris asked members of the Committee to visit the Engage WR website to participate and to pass the information along to others as well.

Chris advised that some preliminary research has shown some areas in Wilmot Township that would be likely candidates to be considered as potential Cultural Heritage Landscapes:

- Huron Road - from Punkeydoodles Corner to Roseville
- Erb's Road – with smaller CHLs along the road such as St. Agatha, the Shrine of the Sorrowful Mother

- Snyder's Road – including the Castle Kilbride landscape shaped by James Livingston, Livingston Mill
- Baden Hills – for topography and also the association with Indigenous history
- New Hamburg – including Christner Road, William Scott history
- New Dundee
- Sunfish Lake / Spongy Lake – environmental area
- Hydro Cut trail – community project, aesthetic value

Tracy offered to provide information regarding some of the above potential resources to the study team, and Chris welcomed the effort. Chris mentioned more participation in the project would be helpful to determine the value of the landscapes and what is important to the community. Barry offered to have a related article in the Baden Outlook to promote the project and inform the local community. Nick encouraged Committee members and the public to visit the website so that they could review information and provide input into the study.

## **Business**

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

The presentation at the last Council meeting went well and the new additions to the Non-Designated Register were well-received. Thank-you went out to Marg for presenting to Council and for her work on the project itself. Thank-you went out to Yvonne for her assistance with the project as well.

Tracy finalized the letter to the owners of the properties who have now been added to the Non-Designated Register. The letters were sent out earlier this week. This step was required per the new *Ontario Heritage Act* changes that came into effect earlier this year.

The Committee then discussed possible next steps for the Non-Designated Register. A major project will be to update the existing photographs associated with the Register as some of them are outdated or of poorer quality. A sub-committee was formed for this project. Scott, Yvonne and Patty volunteered for the sub-committee. Jenn also previously expressed an interest in being involved.

**ACTION:** Nick will send an email to the members advising what was discussed, and the sub-committee can work to divide the photographs into smaller groups for themselves. Tracy can also arrange a virtual meeting for the sub-committee to discuss the project.

The Committee also discussed other possible projects for the Non-Designated Register. Some of these projects include:

- bridges in the Township;
- natural areas (like the Arboretum);

- rural areas (on Snyder's Road and other busier roads) that were initially difficult to survey;
- moving to the settlement areas (Baden, New Hamburg) now that most of the rural areas have been completed.

### **Bridge Street Bridge EA**

Nick is currently working on a letter summarizing the comments from Heritage Wilmot to date. He will finalize the letter with Yvonne and Jenn, then circulate to the Committee and project Engineer when it is complete.

### **Holland Mills Bridge plaque**

There are no new updates for this project. The text has been finalized and changes to the layout are being made to accommodate the text as well as photographs. When complete, Tracy will circulate for comment.

### **Correspondence/Info Sharing**

#### **Ontario Culture Days**

Tracy shared information about this Provincial event, which runs from September 24<sup>th</sup> to October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The event in the Township is called "Vintage Views of Wilmot" that Sherri Gropp created. It will serve as an engaging scavenger hunt through the Township. QR codes have been placed in different areas around the Township with old black and white photographs of the buildings or areas accompanying them. Participants will take a selfie with these old photographs and the current area and post them to social media.

#### **Old Country Restaurant**

The restaurant has been sold and is closing temporarily for remodeling. There were some questions about the old photographs that were hung in the restaurant space, and if they could be acquired. Tracy confirmed the photos are reproductions and that copies of the photographs are also in the Township's archival collection.

#### **Angie's Restaurant in St. Agatha**

The restaurant is currently for sale. The property is a designated building (Part IV), and it was reiterated that any changes that might occur with the new ownership will still be flagged for the Committee when appropriate.

#### **Heritage Week**

The next Heritage Week in February will most likely not be an in-person event due to the public health restrictions. There could be an online component again this year, in order to provide some engagement opportunities. Nick will add this to the Agenda for the next meeting, so that the Committee can discuss further.

**Adjournment** – 7:20 p.m.

MOVED by Barry

**Next meeting** – November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 6:30pm