



# HERITAGE WILMOT

Township of Wilmot  
**Heritage Wilmot Advisory Committee**

Minutes of April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Present: Nick Bogaert (Chair), Marg Rowell (Vice-Chair), Yvonne Zyma, Patty Clarke, Artem Voytsekhovskiy, Rene Eby, Al Junker, Tracy Loch (Director/Curator), Councillor Jennifer Pfenning, Harold O’Krafka (Director of Development Services)

Guests: Stewart Snyder

Regrets: Scott Williams, Elisia Scagnetti, Councillor Barry Fisher

Meeting was held virtually. Meeting started at 6:33 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 disclosed.

## **Review of Minutes March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

MOVED by Al

SECONDED Jenn

ALL in favour

## **Business**

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

Jenn updated the Committee that she and Yvonne are going out onsite to start taking photos on April 18<sup>th</sup>. They expect to provide an update on progress at the next meeting.

### **Baden Mill / former Livingston Mill – update on demolition application for silos**

The Committee discussed a recap of the consideration of the request at the recent Council meeting. A detailed presentation from Heritage Wilmot was made to Council on April 11 to highlight the importance of this property and to recommend designation. The final decision was that Council voted not to designate the property and so the property owner would be given permission to proceed with demolition. Nick thanked Marg and Yvonne for representing Heritage Wilmot at Council.

As a recap Yvonne shared that she was surprised that no questions were asked during the presentation that she and Marg were present for. She shared that she had done

some research into the Ontario Heritage Tool Kit and reiterated that condition should not have been taken into consideration when considering designation. She felt it had not been given enough attention. She also shared there was an article that she wanted to share and will forward it on to the Committee.

Tracy updated that she is working with the owner to arrange a tour of the property for the Committee. Jenn shared that she had visited the site prior to the Council meeting, and expressed an interest in going back to take more photographs and said Mr. Snyder was open to allowing the Committee to see if there were any objects that could be salvaged. Al, Yvonne and Patty also expressed an interest in visiting the property. Mr. Snyder indicated he could move the barricades on the property to accommodate a tour and welcomed the taking of photos for documentation purposes. Nick asked the owner about timing of demolition, and Mr. Snyder indicated that it was supposed to be a winter project, and that the earlier the better. Mr. Snyder shared that he has a purchaser for the property and if he waits too long, they may lose interest. He indicated updates were required to the Official Plan before development could occur, so there is some time yet. He concluded that it could occur this summer, but said he had more time in the fall. As things progressed, he said he would keep the Committee informed.

As a side note to mills, Tracy mentioned how Livingston's mill in Montreal is similar to the Baden location with older and newer silos and will share with the Committee at a later date some photos.

Jenn asked if the remaining properties on the mill site could be designated and enquired about process. Nick shared that it was next on the agenda and said that it would be more appropriate for him and Tracy to first approach the property owner with the idea. Nick identified that it was already noted as a high priority and fits nicely with the upcoming work program. Nick asked Tracy to contact the owner and set up a future meeting.

### **New Business**

#### **Non-designated Register: additional 2022 updates**

Nick reviewed the additional areas being looked at were natural areas and bridges, and asked for any other suggestions. Rene mentioned a home in Mannheim that should be added (details to be provided), and Yvonne suggested to add the Arboretum as well as properties beyond the Heritage Conservation District in New Hamburg. Al noted that Waterloo Street in New Hamburg should be added as well. Marg noted that Snyder's Road from Baden to Trussler Road (Waldau on both sides) is yet to be completed as well. Rene suggested that Marie Voisin could be a resource to contact regarding New Hamburg properties. Al also has knowledge of some properties in New Hamburg to share.

The Committee discussed the potential to have multiple teams undertaking work on the Register, especially as the focus shifts to the more urban areas. Jenn and Al offered to assist with photos, and Nick offered to assist as well with visits and descriptions.

Tracy reminded the Committee for those that are assisting with the Non-Designated Register updates, to be mindful when visiting potential properties to use the letter for the

property owner prior to in order obtain permission to walk on their property. The protocol has always been followed and strengthens communication with Committee initiatives as well.

### **Waterlot – update on proposed renovations**

Nick updated that he and Tracy had met with the architect for the owner recently to discuss their proposed work on the building. They discussed requirements to ensure the work met guidelines associated with being a designated property and being within the Downtown New Hamburg Heritage Conservation District. Nick invited representatives from the project team to attend the next Heritage Wilmot meeting, and they are planning to provide the Committee with an update once draft plans are ready.

### **Correspondence**

Nick received correspondence from the Director of Facilities (Sandy Jackson) regarding a new Township project to share with the Committee. From the website, “The purpose of the Nith River Promenade Rehabilitation project is to improve the structure of both, the promenade and the trail, increasing the overall accessibility for users, enhance erosion control, and reduce the negative effects of major flood events.” Nick noted that consultation is open for the river promenade, and encouraged Committee members to review the information available and provide comment. Yvonne discussed concern about trees being removed in place of a pathway, and Al noted that since it is in the HCD it would be beneficial to further discuss formal Heritage Wilmot comments. He noted the aspect that drove the HCD included the architecture and the natural heritage (river bank) and that the study area included the river. Yvonne also noted the river is a heritage river. It was noted the project is needed, and that it would be beneficial to preserve natural features in the area. Harold shared history of the project and noted the pathway is falling apart due to the flow of water. He also noted that the current design is not accessible. Patty enquired about how to comment and Nick said he will share the link. Tracy reminded the Committee that the HCD falls within their mandate and perhaps in addition, to review the map of the HCD may assist prior to commenting. Nick will circulate the email from Ms. Jackson along with the map for members.

### **Roundtable / Information sharing**

Rene noted that he received a call from the owner of a building across from the Baden Emporium property, regarding some old equipment that may be of interest. He will visit the property and report back.

**Adjournment** – 7:45p.m.

MOVED by Al

**Next meeting** – May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 6:30pm