

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

The Township of Melancthon Heritage Advisory Committee held an electronic meeting on November 7, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. The following members were present: Chair Ralph Moore, Vice-Chair Tracy Webber, James McLean, Todd McIntosh, Kristine Pedicone and Douglas Read, also present was Becky Cunnington, Heritage Advisory Committee Secretary. Member Dennis Scace was absent. Chair Moore called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Land Acknowledgement

Chair Moore shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

Additions/Deletions/Approval of Agenda

Additions

None

Deletions

None

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Read, Seconded by Webber that the agenda be approved as presented. Carried.

Approval of Draft Minutes

Moved by Pedicone, Seconded by McLean that the minutes of the Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting held on October 3, 2023 be approved as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising from Minutes

None

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest or Conflict of Interest

No declaration declared at this time.

General Business

1. Finalized Interview Questions for One Room Schoolhouses.

Chair Moore asked the Members if they had any concerns or feedback about the finalized list that was circulated. No concerns, members commented that it was a good guideline for the interviews.

2. Update on Research Visit to the Museum of Dufferin on October 17th, 2023

Three Members of the Committee attended the Workshop. They all thought the workshop was great and stated they learned a lot however, it wasn't as helpful for the schoolhouse project as there is not a lot of information available at the Museum on the Schoolhouses.

3. Other/Addition

None

4. Unfinished Business

1) Plaque Program-Application has been updated on the Township website. The program is being advertised on Facebook and was sent out to the Township email list. Direction was given to continue to post about it to see if there is any interest from the public.

2) Bursary for the History Department at CDDHS

Member McLean spoke with Staff from CDDHS who suggested they consider making the Bursary an essay contest where students would have to explain why they deserve the Bursary. The Members discussed some criteria and agreed that the student should be enrolled in grade 12 history and that there should be some community involvement related to history or heritage. Member McLean volunteered to write a proposal to send to the school outlining what the Committee would be looking for, as well as the criteria that the Committee would use when reviewing the submissions. The Committee would like to get it to the school as soon as possible so students can make arrangements for volunteer hours if they are interested in applying.

3) Student Involvement in Committee Research

A discussion was had regarding the role the student volunteers would take on, the Committee wondered if they be able to assist with research for Heritage Week or it was also suggested that they could pick their own buildings in the Township and research those. It was also discussed if they could assist with compiling the information from the interviews from the schoolhouse projects in a format to share with the public. A conversation was had regarding where and how the students would do their work. Chair Moore wondered if they would need access to the office or if they would work independently at home or at school. Chair Moore will work on duties and responsibilities for the student volunteers and circulate to the group for feedback and comment.

4) Heritage Week 2024

A discussion was had whether the final two properties being highlighted should be left to the student volunteers to choose or if the Committee should pick and have the students do the research. Member McIntosh suggested that they consider highlighting a Heritage Home or Farm and suggested they could reach out to the one applicant from the Plaque Program to see if he would be interested in having his home highlighted. The Committee agreed, and direction was given to have Township staff reach out to him on behalf of the Committee. The other suggestion Member McIntosh had was to highlight one of the older homes in Riverview. Chair Moore suggested his house might be a good option as it is older, but also offered to do some research to see if there is another good option besides his own and the Committee agreed.

5. Brainstorming Roundtable

One Room Schoolhouse Project

A Discussion was had regarding what to do with the schoolhouse project information once it's compiled. Member McLean suggested it be available on the Township website with links for each schoolhouse where the information collected would be displayed. A discussion was had about how to make it available for people without internet access or who aren't as comfortable using the internet. It was suggested that the information be copied into a booklet that would be available at the Township office and Library.

A discussion was had regarding the locations of some of the schoolhouses. Member Webber had completed an interview with someone who had attended the Mayburne Schoolhouse, and she was trying to determine the exact location of the school. Township staff offered to update the legal description listing of the schoolhouses to include civic addresses or description of the location for each one and circulate it to the group.

Chair Moore also suggested to the Committee that they could put an ad in the papers for the schoolhouse project. Chair Moore inquired if he could include the email addresses for each member so anyone with information could reach out to Members directly. All Members agreed to have their email addresses shared. It was also discussed about posting on Facebook in particular the success Member Pedicone has had with posting in the group "If you grew up in or around Shelburne, Ontario do you remember". Chair Moore requested to have a post put on the Township Facebook page as well.

Meeting Dates

The Committee discussed having the December meeting be an in person meeting with some light refreshments. The Meeting will be held at the Township office and Chair Moore will bring the refreshments.

Also discussed was the January meeting date, because of the holidays and the first Tuesday in January being the 2nd the Committee agreed to move the meeting date to the second Tuesday of the month.

Recommendations to Council

None

Public Question Period

None.

Confirmation Motion

Moved by Pedicone, Seconded by McLean that all actions of the Members and Officers of the Heritage Advisory Committee with respect to every matter addressed and/or adopted by the Board on the above date are hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed; and each motion, resolution and other actions taken by the Board Members at the meeting held on the above date are hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed. Carried.

Adjournment

7:23 p.m. - Moved by Read, Seconded by Webber that we adjourn this Heritage Advisory Committee meeting to meet again on Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. or at the call of the Chair. Carried.

CHAIR

SECRETARY