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Windsor, Ontario January 8, 2014

A meeting of the **Windsor Heritage Committee** is held this day commencing at 5:30 o'clock p.m. in Room 409, 400 City Hall Square East, there being present the following members:

Robin Easterbrook, Chair
Councillor Fulvio Valentinis
Lynn Baker
Andrew Foot
Noreen Slack (arrives at 5:37 p.m.)

Regrets received from:

Simon Chamely
Jeffrey Mellow

Delegation:

Howard Weeks, regarding Item 5.1

Guests in attendance:

Councillor Alan Halberstadt
Peter Angermann
Mark Lefebvre
David Hanna
Bruce Jamieson
Agatha Sarafianos

Also present are the following resource personnel:

John R. Calhoun, Heritage Planner
Mike Clement, Manager, Parks Development
Michael Cooke, Manager of Planning Policy
Gayle Jones, Accessibility/Diversity Officer
John Miceli, Executive Director of Parks and Facilities
Karen Kadour, Committee Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair calls the meeting to order at 5:35 o'clock p.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule "A" **attached** hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

2. **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

Moved by L. Baker, seconded by A. Foot,
That the minutes of the Windsor Heritage Committee at its meeting held
November 14, 2013 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT**

None disclosed.

5. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

5.1 **Willistead Manor, 1899 Niagara Street**

John Miceli, Executive Director of Parks & Facilities and Mike Clement, Manager, Parks Development are present to provide information relating to the installation of paths in Willistead Park. The PowerPoint Presentation entitled "City of Windsor Parks Department - Willistead Park - Windsor Heritage Committee Meeting" is **attached** as Appendix "A". The highlights of the presentation are as follows:

- The current design of Willistead Park is *non-compliant* with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) and the City of Windsor Accessibility Standards "Building a Barrier-Free Community".
- The Parks Department is recommending the installation of 10 foot wide asphalt paths.
- The proposed pathways will provide all members of the community a safe, dry and accessible route for various activities which include walking, jogging, using a wheelchair or pushing a baby stroller.
- Problem with the current design of Willistead Park includes:
 - o During inclement weather, access to the park is limited.
 - o City staff has a difficult time accessing the grounds without damaging the landscape.
 - o Maintenance required during or after a period of bad weather is not easily delivered, resulting in additional costs.
- The Parks Department has designed a pathway suitable:
 - o For 2-way accessible traffic exceeding the minimum requirements of barrier-free standards.
 - o To accommodate equipment required for park maintenance.
 - o To support events and functions hosted at the park.
 - o To better manage current and future costs.

Howard Weeks, resident of Ward 4 is present and offers the following comments, **attached** as Appendix "B" relating to the installation of paths in Willistead Park:

- Questions how the placement of 10.5 acres of hardscape asphalt will improve the heritage value of Willistead Park.
- The proposed roadways would offend the intent of the Heritage Designating By-law. One of the features designating the Park as a heritage site is its "limited hardscape". If the roads are built, that particular feature will no longer exist and could jeopardize the designation.
- Is not in support of the recommendations outlined in the report of the Heritage Planner dated December 24, 2013.
- The proposal to double the width of the existing pathways and lengthen them appears to create a large negative effect upon the heritage appearance of Willistead Park.
- Members of the Save Willistead Park Group are of the opinion that this plan to change the park should be the result of extensive consultation and input.
- The Save Willistead Park Group wants a recommendation that allows a democratic process; where all parties get an equal opportunity to contribute to the heritage concerns only.

In response to a question asked by Councillor Valentinis regarding if Mr. Weeks concern relates to the amount of asphalt, Mr. Weeks responds he is concerned with the asphalt, the width of the pathways, the loss of green space, and cycling and skateboarding activities.

An e-mail from Stephen Marshall, Chair, Willistead Board of Directors dated January 8, 2014 is distributed and **attached** as Appendix "C".

Gayle Jones, Accessibility and Diversity Officer is present and distributes the City of Windsor Accessibility Standards dated November 6, 2006 as it relates to the "Scope and Application" and the "Accessible Outdoor Public Areas", **attached** as Appendix "D". She indicates any new construction (including outdoor paths) must conform to the Facility Accessibility Design Standards. She refers to section 3.3 - Accessible Heritage Facilities as follows:

*"This standard will generally apply to **alterations to a Heritage Facility**, however, under the Ontario Human Rights Code, there are allowances for modification to the defining features of a Heritage Facility which are deemed to alter the essential nature or substantially affect the viability of the enterprise. Public Heritage Facilities should be assessed for compliance to accessibility standards on an individual basis, to determine the most effective and least disruptive means of retrofit, where required.*

*Facilities and/or areas that are generally **used independently by the public** and have undergone extensive modernization should be permanently and fully accessible. This includes parking areas, reception areas, washrooms, food service areas and gift shops. It can also include walkways and garden areas. If accessibility is limited by non-heritage elements, those elements should be revised. "*

G. Jones states the minimum width for a pathway as outlined in the Facility Accessibility Design Standards is 72 inches. The surface material of the path should not be cobblestone as this material will create inaccessibility for people in wheelchairs, visually impaired individuals, the elderly and for those pushing baby strollers.

L. Baker indicates she is not in favour of 10 foot paths and additional trails.

M. Clement reports the paths in Jackson Park are 10 feet wide. He advises the Parks Department wants to respect the heritage of Willistead Park and not to detract from it.

In response to a question asked by N. Slack regarding what amenities the public is requesting in city parks, M. Clement responds the City of Windsor Parks Master Plan is currently being updated and the primary request is for additional trails.

Moved by Councillor Valentinis, seconded by N. Slack,
That City Council **BE REQUESTED** to approve asphalt as the surface material for the new paths to be installed in Willistead Park.
Carried.

Moved by L. Baker, seconded by A. Foot,
That City Council **BE REQUESTED** to approve the width of six feet (1.83 m) for the installation of new pathways in Willistead Park.
Carried.
Councillor Valentinis voting nay.

Moved by Councillor Valentinis, seconded by N. Slack,
That City Council **BE REQUESTED** to approve the running length of the paths in Willistead Park as proposed in the diagram entitled "Proposed Pathways - December 2013", attached as Appendix "A".
Carried.
L. Baker and A. Foot voting nay.

When Council referred this matter to the Windsor Heritage Committee on November 18, 2013, they determined that the Committee Reports pertaining to the pathways in Willistead Park will circumvent the Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee and proceed directly to City Council due to timeline constraints.

Discussion ensues regarding the elimination of the centre pathway in Willistead Park. G. Jones indicates from a practical standpoint, the elimination of the centre pathway would cause difficulty for those who cannot walk the entire perimeter of the park.

J. Miceli reports benches will be installed every 100 to 200 metres throughout Willistead Park.

5.2 **Heritage Recognition**

J. Calhoun states the Committee is tasked with choosing properties to receive the 2014 Built Heritage Awards. He notes recognition could be for reasons such as long-term good property stewardship or a recent well-done rehabilitation. Properties must be within the City of Windsor, but need not be on the Windsor Municipal Heritage Register. The choices of the Committee are final.

L. Baker indicates she has attended the Esdras Parent House, 827 Esdras c 1852, and notes an extraordinary amount of work has been undertaken.

Moved by L. Baker, seconded by A. Foot,

That the property known as the Esdras Parent House, 827 Esdras Avenue, (Riverside) c 1852, continuously used as single-family residence (designated 2003) **BE NOMINATED** for a Built Heritage Award.

Carried.

Moved by L. Baker, seconded by Councillor Valentinis,

That Windsor Truck & Storage, 201 Shepherd Street East (Core) industrial art deco, recently renovated (architect Settimo Vilardi) on the Windsor Municipal Heritage Register since 2008 **BE NOMINATED** for a Built Heritage Award.

Carried.

Moved by L. Baker, seconded by A. Foot,

That the property known as the Morand House, 3954 Howard Avenue **BE NOMINATED** for a Built Heritage Award.

Carried.

6. **COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

6.1 **Heritage Week- February 17-23, 2014**

J. Calhoun states Heritage Week will be held from February 17-23, 2014.

6.2 **Doors Open 2014**

L. Baker states funding from the 2013 WHC Operating Budget in the amount of \$5,300 and \$2,000 from the Manager of Cultural Affairs has been received for the Doors Open 2014 initiative.

6.3 Process and Information Improvements

J. Calhoun indicates the Information Technology Department is focusing on a program to assist with data being made available relating to proposals for changes and for the purchase of a heritage property.

6.4 Archaeological Site

No report.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

A Special Meeting will be requested for January 29, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 407, 400 City Hall Square East to discuss the possible demolition of 2490 McDougall Street.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be held on March 12, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 407, 400 City Hall Square East.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 7:20 o'clock p.m.

CHAIR

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR

AGENDA
and Schedule "A"
to the minutes of the
Windsor Heritage Committee
meeting held
Wednesday, January 8, 2014
at 5:30 o'clock p.m.
Room 409, 400 City Hall Square East

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held November 14, 2013 (*previously distributed*)

3. **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT**

4. **DELEGATIONS**

Mr. Mike Clement, regarding *Item 5.1*

Mr. John Miceli, regarding *Item 5.1*

5. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

5.1 **Willistead Manor, 1899 Niagara Street**

(File HER-1-2014) Consider recommendation on request to modify the pathways in the park. The report of the Heritage Planner dated December 24, 2013 entitled "Willistead Manor, 1899 Niagara Street Heritage Alteration: Install paths in park" - **attached.**

5.2 **Heritage Recognition**

Decide on properties to receive Built Heritage Awards, and other recognitions. Memo of the Heritage Planner dated January 8, 2014 entitled "Heritage Award Nominations" - **attached.**

6. **COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

6.1 **Heritage Week, February 17-23, 2014**

Events

6.2 **Doors Open 2014**

Next meeting January 15, 2014

6.3 Process and Information Improvements

Heritage review processes are among several areas of study by the CAO's office for changes to be recommended. The IT Department is proposing data changes to improve awareness of properties with heritage status, for staff and the public.

6.4 Archaeological Site

Status of request

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next regular scheduled meeting will be held on March 12, 2014 at 5:30 o'clock p.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT