

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

**HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
OCTOBER 22, 2003**

Present: Mr. Allan MacLellan, Chair
Mr. Tom Creighton, Vice Chair
Councillor Bob Harvey
Mr. Paul MacKinnon
Ms. Margo Grant
Ms. Janet Morris
Mr. Mark Pothier

Regrets: Dr. Toby Balch
Mr. Dale Hall
Ms. Andrea Arbic
Mr. Jim Trites

STAFF: Ms. Randa James, Acting Heritage Planner
Mr. Dan Norris, Manager, Culture and Heritage
Ms. Patti Halliday, Legislative Assistant
Ms. Dorothy Amey, Administrative Support

Table of Contents

| | | |
|-----|--|---|
| 1. | APPROVAL OF MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 24, 2003 | 3 |
| 2. | APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS, ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS . | 3 |
| 3. | DEFERRED ITEM | 3 |
| 3.1 | Discussion re: By-Laws and Planning Guidelines/Criteria for Heritage Properties (deferred from August) | 3 |
| 4. | REPORTS | 3 |
| 4.1 | Heritage Incentives Program Report - Dan Norris | 4 |
| 4.2 | 1137 Ketch Harbour Road - Heritage Grant - Dan Norris | 3 |
| 5. | INFORMATION ITEMS | 5 |
| 5.1 | Approval Letters | 5 |
| 5.2 | Discussion re: time of HAC meetings for 2004 | 5 |
| 5.3 | Correspondence from Wallace Brannen re: 5133 Morris Street | 5 |
| 6. | ADDED ITEMS | 6 |
| 7. | DATE OF NEXT MEETING | 6 |

Mr. MacLellan, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 24, 2003

MOVED by Ms. Margo Grant, seconded by Mr. Tom Creighton, that the minutes of September 24, 2003 be approved, as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS, ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

It was agreed to move Item 4.2 1137 Ketch Harbour Road - Heritage Grant up on the agenda to be first under Item 4 Reports.

3. DEFERRED ITEM

3.1 Discussion re: By-Laws and Planning Guidelines/Criteria for Heritage Properties (deferred from August)

As Ms. Arbic was unable to attend this meeting, it was agreed to defer this item to the November meeting.

4. REPORTS

4.2 1137 Ketch Harbour Road - Heritage Grant - Dan Norris

C A staff report prepared for Lew Rogers, Director, Recreation, Tourism and Culture, regarding the above, was before the Committee for its consideration.

Mr. Dan Norris, Manager, Culture and Heritage, presented the staff report to the Committee, noting it was a situation of some urgency. Colour photographs illustrating the damage to the property caused by Hurricane Juan were circulated. Mr. Norris stated the staff recommendation is that a grant of \$5,000 be provided, of which, \$2500 be assigned for repairs and \$2500 be assigned for a professional assessment and schedule of repairs. Mr. Norris noted the applicant is requesting that the entire \$5000 be allocated to repairs as the Province has already indicated the work to be done, and it would be wasteful to pay someone to look at it again.

Following a brief discussion, the following motion was put forth:

MOVED by Mr. Tom Creighton, seconded by Mr. Mark Pothier, that:

1. **The Heritage Advisory Committee recommend to Council that the emergency repairs required to ensure that the MacKey House, located at 1137 Ketch Harbour Road, be conducted to protect this municipally registered heritage property from further damage by natural elements until a plan can be prepared for the long term repair and rehabilitation.**
2. **The Heritage Advisory Committee recommend to Council that a grant of \$5,000 be provided and assigned to repairs to enclose the main part of the house to protect it from the elements. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4.1 Heritage Incentives Program Report - Dan Norris

- C A staff report prepared for Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, to Regional Council regarding the above, was before the Committee for its information.
- C Draft guidelines for the Commercial and Residential Heritage Incentive Programs were circulated to the Committee.

Mr. Dan Norris, Manager, Culture and Heritage, advised the Committee that the Heritage Incentive Programs were favourably received by Regional Council. He reviewed the Council report for the benefit of the Committee, noting some concerns were expressed about the commercial program and potential bias to downtown Halifax as that is where most commercial heritage buildings are located.

Mr. Norris circulated and reviewed the draft guidelines for both the residential and commercial heritage grant programs. In response to a question of Mr. Creighton, he suggested a sub-committee of the HAC could be struck to consider a program for institutional buildings. Mr. Creighton suggested that this is something that should take place in the near future. It was suggested that a sub-committee be struck once the new Committee appointments are made in November.

Mr. Norris reviewed the residential incentive program stating the guidelines will be made available on the web and a booklet is also being designed and modelled after the 1999 provincial booklet.

Mr. Creighton inquired if there is a minimum grant amount. Mr. Norris responded that there was not but suggested it may be appropriate to include one.

In discussion of the program, the issue of awareness of heritage issues was raised. Mr. Creighton suggested Committee members may want to attend heritage plaque presentations, particularly for public buildings, to heighten awareness of the program and to show

appreciation to the property owners for their efforts. Mr. Norris noted other municipalities hold plaque unveiling ceremonies. Mr. MacLellan stated he believes awareness is a problem with whole heritage program. Mr. Norris suggested notifications of plaque unveilings could be sent to surrounding neighbours to provide more publicity to the program.

With respect to the concerns about the commercial program, Mr. Norris suggested something that could be considered is to make it a requirement that the property be outside the core area to encourage commercial designation in outlying areas. Mr. MacLellan stated he believes money should be allocated to each District.

Mr. Norris noted both programs' guidelines can be tweaked next year to encourage more registration outside the core area.

Mr. Norris suggested the Committee should be presenting annual reports to Council to provide more exposure. He suggested the report could include information such as how many properties have been registered, how many heritage grants were provided, photos of homes before and after restoration, etc.

In closing, Mr. Norris requested the Committee forward any additional comments on the program to himself or Ms. James.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 Approval Letters

Approval letters for the following properties were before the Committee for its information:

- C 5476 Clyde Street
- C 5480-82 Clyde Street
- C 6201 Shirley Street
- C 5308 South Street

5.2 Discussion re: time of HAC meetings for 2004

A discussion was held regarding the time of meetings, and most members in attendance expressed concern with evening meetings. Therefore, it was agreed that next month's meeting would be held at 3:00 p.m. and a decision on future meetings would be made at that time.

5.3 Correspondence from Wallace Brannen re: 5133 Morris Street

- C Correspondence from Wallace Brannen regarding 5133 Morris Street was before the

Committee for its consideration.

Mr. MacKinnon provided some photographs of 5133 Morris Street that were circulated for the Committee to view.

Ms. James advised the Committee that the height of the railing does not meet the Building Code nor By-Law requirements. Therefore, The Building Inspector has issued a request for the property owner to remove the deck. Ms. James agreed to follow up on this matter to determine if it has proceeded to Legal Services and report back to the Committee at its next meeting.

In other business, Mr. Creighton requested that information be provided in the Committee's packages on items that have proceeded to Regional Council and the resulting action. Mr. Norris suggested a Status Sheet may also be of benefit to the Committee.

6. ADDED ITEMS

None.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be November 26, 2003, 3:00 p.m., Halifax Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Patti Halliday
Legislative Assistant

