



City of North Bay Report to Council

Report No: CSBU No. 2021-04

Date: February 10, 2021

Originator: Peter Carello, MCIP RPP

Business Unit:

Community Services

Department:

Planning & Building Department

Subject: 2020 Municipal Heritage Committee Annual Report

Closed Session: yes ☐ no ☒

Recommendation

That the 2020 Municipal Heritage Committee Annual Report be received and referred to the Community Services Committee.

Background

Attached to this Report to Council is the Municipal Heritage Committee's (MHC) Annual Report.

2020 proved to be a unique year for the Committee. Restrictions forced into place by the pandemic prevented the Committee from carrying out their work plan in a typical fashion.

Some of the highlights of the Committee's activities in 2020 include finalizing outstanding property evaluation reports, completing two Heritage Site Plaques and adjudicating the Youth Heritage Photography Contest that had begun in 2019.

A full listing of Committee activities in 2020 is contained in the attached report.

Financial/Legal Implications

There are no legal or financial implications as a result of this report.

Corporate Strategic Plan

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Natural North and Near | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Prosperity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affordable Balanced Growth | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spirited Safe Community |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Responsible and Responsive Government | |

Specific Objectives

- Develop a practice of communications and engagement that ensures that residents are aware and understand what City Hall is doing
- Promote and encourage arts and culture as a cornerstone of a dynamic community

Options Analysis

Option 1

That the 2020 Municipal Heritage Committee Annual Report be received and referred to the Community Services Committee.

Option 2

That Council not receive the 2020 Annual Report from the Municipal Heritage Committee.

Recommended Option

Option 1 is the recommended option.

Respectfully submitted,

Name: Peter Carello, MCIP RPP

Title: Senior Planner – Current Operations

I concur with this report and recommendation.

Name: Beverley Hillier, MCIP RPP
Title: Manager, Planning & Building Services

Name: Ian Kilgour, RPP
Title: Director of Community Development and Growth

Name: David Euler, P.Eng
Title: Chief Administrative Officer

Personnel designated for continuance:

Name: Peter Carello
Title: Senior Planner – Current Operations

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The City of North Bay
Municipal Heritage Committee

2020 Annual Report



City of North Bay Municipal Heritage Committee (MHC)

2020 Annual Report

Introduction

This report to City Council is submitted pursuant to Clause 6(g) of By-law No. 38-96, as amended, of The Corporation of the City of North Bay (the MHC By-law).

Background

This report reflects activities undertaken by the North Bay MHC from January to December of 2020.

Committee Highlights – 2020

Committee Membership – 2020

The following individuals made up the Committee at the end of 2020:

Peter Handley, Chair (Community Representative)
Jennifer Buell, Vice Chair (Community Representative)
Andrew Bruce-Payne (North Bay Society of Architects)
Naomi Hehn (North Bay Museum)
Councillor Scott Robertson (City Council Representative)
Jeff Borden (Community Representative)
Jeff Serran (Community Representative)
Margaret Surtees (Community Representative)
Ed Valenti (Community Representative)
Ex-officio: Caroline Loiselle (Ministry of Citizenship and Culture)
Staff: Peter Carello, Secretary-Treasurer (Planning Department)

Matt Lerch, a member of the Society of Architects has continued to attend Committee meetings in 2020.

Paul Walker attended meetings as an ex-officio member representing the North Bay Public Library. This appointment was unofficial, as the by-law establishing the MHC does not provide for an appointment for the Library. Mr. Walker retired from the Library at the beginning of 2014 and has continued to attend MHC meetings since that time as the Committee's resident historian.

George Maroosis was a member of the Municipal Heritage Committee until his appointment to City Council. Jeff Borden replaced Councillor Maroosis on the Heritage Committee.



Meetings of the Committee

A total of five (5) official meetings of the Committee were held from January to December 2020. The first two meetings were held in person at City Hall. Following the onset of the pandemic and subsequent restrictions, the Committee met three times by Zoom.

Property Evaluations

The MHC performed a site evaluation at the former Demarco's building on Algonquin Avenue in 2019. The Committee was not able to complete the report for this evaluation last year. Work on the report was completed in 2020.

The Committee was working towards performing two evaluations in 2020. However, the Covid-19 pandemic prevented the Committee from conducting these site visits. The Committee expects to resume new evaluations in 2021.

Heritage Site Plaque Program

The MHC established the "Heritage Site Recognition Program" in 2008. This program is consistent with Section 6 D) of By-Law No. 38-96, which states that the MHC is "to implement programs and activities to increase public awareness and knowledge of heritage conservation issues". A total of twenty-three (23) plaques have now been installed throughout the City as part of this program.

In 2019, the MHC completed work on the plaque telling the story of the Golf Street crossing, the Toronto Highway, George W. Lee and Amelia Parks. The plaque was installed at the intersection of Memorial Drive and Stanley Street in November. The Committee had intended to unveil this plaque in 2020 but were not able to do so as a result of the pandemic. It is the Committee's expectation to unveil this plaque in 2021.

The Committee was approached by the Parks and Recreation Department to prepare a Heritage Site Plaque to recognize Jack Burrows and the naming of the area in front of the North Bay Museum as "Jack Burrows Place". This plaque was prepared, produced and installed in 2020. A small public ceremony attended by the Burrows family unveiled this plaque; the MHC did not attend due to the pandemic.

The Committee also prepared a plaque for Jack Garland Airport and CFB Station North Bay. Given the range of topics of this plaque, it was larger than other Heritage Site Plaques. It was also unique in that it is the first plaque to be installed indoors (within the terminal building). This plaque was prepared and produced in 2020. Installation is expected to occur shortly.

The Committee is also beginning work on the research for a Heritage Site Plaque that would be produced in 2021 and installed in 2022. The topic for this plaque would discuss the historical development of the downtown core, including the events, businesses and individuals shaped the built form as we know it.



Youth Photography Contest

The MHC introduced a Heritage Photography contest for local youth aged 18 and under in 2018, which was continued since that time. The purpose of the contest is to raise awareness of local heritage and to determine what aspects of local heritage are most important to the youth of North Bay.

Participants are encouraged to explore and capture the culture and heritage of North Bay in a way unique to their own interpretation of it. They were challenged to think about what they saw and provide a short caption explaining why their photo was important to them. Youth participants are asked to consider how their photograph relates to one of three broadly defined categories (Built Heritage, Natural Heritage and Human Heritage).

The MHC offered prizes of DIA Gift Cards for the winners of the contest. First prize was worth \$100, second prize \$50 and third prize \$25.

The Committee initially advertised the Contest with a number of organizations that have a focus on youth services. A number of submissions were received. However, once the pandemic began, the Committee agreed that it was irresponsible to encourage local youth to go to public areas for the purpose of a photography contest. Advertising for the Contest ceased.

The Committee evaluated the submissions that were received and prizes were awarded to three local youth.

Training

On February 4th, 2020, the Municipal Heritage Committee received training from our counterparts within the Provincial Government. The training focussed on heritage protection measures, evaluations and activities of other heritage committees throughout the province.

The Committee would like to extend its thanks to Caroline Loisel for facilitating this session and to the two provincial staff members that delivered the training.

Operating Budget

The 2020 operating budget was \$2,600. The Committee will finish the year under budget.

Memberships

The North Bay MHC is a member of Community Heritage Ontario, a province-wide organization which provides information and advice to heritage groups. CHO's mission is to *"be an advocate for heritage in Ontario, to encourage the development of municipally-appointed heritage advisory committees and to further the identification, preservation, interpretation and wise use of community heritage locally, provincially and nationally."*



The MHC is also a member of the North Bay Museum. The museum has partnered with the MHC on multiple occasions over the years, including hosting events during Heritage Awareness Week and some of the Committee's meetings. North Bay Museum is represented at the MHC by their museum director/curator, Naomi Hehn.

The MHC is a member of the Ontario Historical Society. The MHC receives a regular newsletter (5 times annually), which offers the Committee insights regarding trends in heritage and history throughout the province.

2021 Workplan

As a result of the uncertainty due to the pandemic and how this may affect the MHC's activities, the detailed workplan that traditionally makes up a part of this Annual Report has not been developed. The group expects to take on as many of the core activities as possible, accommodating for pandemic related restrictions. For example, the MHC is exploring the possibility of recording new podcasts through an online meeting program such as Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Handley
Chair, Municipal Heritage Committee

Appendix A – Photography Contest Winners

First Prize – Aerynn – “The Walls”



Second Prize – Victoria – “The Light Bulbs”



Third Prize – Erika – “Art of the Times”

