MINUTES
HAMILTON LACAC (Municipal Heritage Committee)
Thursday, October 25, 2007
12:00 p.m., Room 207
Hamilton Convention Centre

Present: A. Charlton (Chair), A. French (Vice-Chair), D. Dent (Past Chair) Councillors B. McHattie, and M. Pearson, M. Adkins, A. Denham, P. Hartnett, M. Kirk, B. Manson, F. Thorp Neufeld, M. Stark, and K. Wakeman

Absent with Regrets: Councillor B. Bratina, City business
L. Brown, vacation and S. Wray, vacation

Also Present: D. Cuming, Acting Manager, Community Planning & Design
S. Vattay, Cultural Heritage Planner, Community Planning & Design
M. House, Cultural Heritage Planner, Community Planning & Design
C. Van Sligtenhorst, Assistant Cultural Heritage Planner
I. Bedioui, Legislative Assistant, Clerk’s Office

The meeting was called to order.

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA
The Clerk noted the following changes to the agenda:
(a) Copies of Minutes from the Communication and Education Sub-Committee meetings held September 11 and October 1, 2007 were distributed.
(b) Copies of a Proposed LACAC Heritage Walking Tour from the Communication and Education Sub-Committee were distributed.
(c) Copies of an article from Featured Heritage Buildings entitled “Protecting Our Lighthouses – The Icons of Canada’s Maritime Heritage” were distributed and added as Item 10.3.

(d) Added delegation request from Grant Head of Heritage Watch Hamilton to speak to Item 6 (c) respecting Lister Block.

(Manson/Stark)
That the agenda be approved, as amended.  
CARRIED

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None declared.

3. DELEGATION REQUESTS
3.1 Grant Head, Heritage Watch Hamilton respecting the Lister Block which is Item 6(c) on the agenda.  (Added Item)

(Manson/Stark)
That the delegation request from Mr. Grant Head with respect to the Lister Block be approved.

CARRIED

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
(Adkins/Wakeman)
That the Minutes of the September 27, 2007 meeting of the Hamilton LACAC (Municipal Heritage Committee) be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (Item 5)
(a) The Endangered Buildings list.
Francis Thorp Neufeld requested that following the Endangered Buildings and Landscapes list an additional section be added.

(Thorp Neufeld/Manson)
That, effective today, a section entitled Updates or Concerns on Watched Buildings or Areas be added to the agenda following the Endangered Buildings and Landscapes list.

CARRIED
(b) Update on disposition of policies approved so far. (B. Manson – verbal) (Added Item 5.1)

Bill Manson addressed Committee about its Communication Policy. A discussion followed concerning the protocol of communications sent by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

(c) Item D of outstanding business list

(Wakeman/Pearson)

That Item D on the outstanding business list respecting the colour scheme of the Augustus Jones monument be removed as this issue has been addressed.

CARRIED

6. Endangered Buildings and Landscapes:

(a) Victoria Hall, 68 King Street East, Hamilton (NHS, D) – A. Denham

No updates

(b) Treble Hall, 6-12 John Street North, Hamilton (L) – Councillor B. McHattie

No updates

(c) Lister Block, 28-40 James Street North, Hamilton (D) – Councillor B. McHattie

Grant Head of Heritage Watch Hamilton, expressed concerns that there have been no updates with respect to this building. From what he has learned, the Province’s money hasn’t been received and no architect has been retained. Direction has not been given with respect to the two buildings that flank the building. The City has budgeted $7 million for the project plus the additional funding promised by the Province seems to surpass the required financing which wouldn’t convey a positive public perception. His message was for members of LACAC not to wait until designs have already been prepared which will be too late.

Councillor McHattie indicated he will follow-up with this issue. He explained that the City’s $7 million was budgeted for leasing the building once the renovations have been completed.

David Cuming confirmed that whether the buildings flanking the Lister Block would require a heritage impact assessment is
discretionary. He clarified the process and indicated that staff is currently waiting for the proposed drawings for the building.

It was noted that Joe Rinaldo, General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services, who is currently away, would have information on the Provincial funding and criteria. The Committee expressed concerns that there may be cost over runs

**Stark/Manson**
That the Economic Development and Planning Committee be requested to direct staff to investigate the feasibility of seeking Provincial designation for the Lister Block.

CARRIED

(d) **Auchmar, 88 Fennell Avenue West, Hamilton (D) – B. Manson**  
No updates. Bill Manson indicated that he understands repairs are underway and the stolen plaque is being replaced on the pole.

(e) **Auchmar Gate House, 71 Claremont Drive, Hamilton (L) – M. Stark**  
No updates.

(f) **Smart-Turner Building, 191 Barton Street E., Hamilton (ND, L) – Councillor M. Pearson**  
No updates

(g) **St. Marks, 120 Bay Street South, Hamilton (D) – P. Hartnett**  
No updates

(h) **Tivoli, 108 James Street North, Hamilton (D) – Councillor B. McHattie**  
Councillor McHattie advised that the youth ballet ensemble has hired consultants to develop a business plan to obtain capital funding for the renovations.
(i) Book House, 167 Book Road East, Ancaster (L) – A. Charlton
No updates

(j) The Royal Connaught Hotel, 112 King Street East, Hamilton (L) – M. Adkins
Michael Adkins advised that he has no additional information other than what was in a recent article in the Spectator which confirmed that the building is still owned by the original owners and that the office will be moved out of the building. Concerns were expressed as to whether the building will be heated once the office is moved out.

(k) Andrew Sloss House, 372 Butter Road West, Ancaster (D) – A. Charlton
No updates

(l) 225 James Street South, Hamilton (R) – Councillor B. McHattie
Councillor McHattie indicated that it is his understanding that St. Joseph’s Hospital is moving ahead with demolition of the building. Councillor McHattie further indicated that there is an interested buyer who may protect the heritage of the building, but that party hasn’t seen the building yet. Nevertheless, the plans of the administration of St. Joseph’s Hospital appear to be to demolish the building and not sell it.

The Chair advised that Rebecca Riba has called to set up a meeting with Councillor McHattie and herself on Monday (October 29).

A discussion followed about Council’s position on designating buildings when the owner isn’t in agreement. The relationship between LACAC and Council was discussed. Councillor McHattie also noted that the Committee needs a visioning session to be more effective.

(McHattie/Dent)
That a Visioning Committee be established similar to the one which the Hamilton LACAC (Municipal Heritage Committee) established in 2003.

CARRIED
The Committee discussed the need to change the policies and develop better rules to avoid conflicting information, bad press and confrontation. Although the policies have been changed a process needs to be developed.

(Dent/Manson)
That each Chair of the Hamilton LACAC (Municipal Heritage Committee) Sub-committees contact their members as soon as possible and let Bill Manson know who wants to sit on the Ad Hoc Committee which was recently established to review the Committee’s current communication strategies and develop a communications plan for the organization.

CARRIED

(Hartnett/Thorp Neufeld)
That 795 Old Highway 8, the former Rockton Hotel Livery Stable be added to the Endangered Buildings List.

CARRIED

(Hartnett/Thorp Neufeld)
That staff be directed to investigate the feasibility of revoking or amending the former Town of Flamborough’s demolition permit on 795 Old Highway 8, the former Rockton Hotel Livery Stable.

CARRIED

Staff confirmed that the HMP property is going to be demolished and a condition of the permit is that photographs be taken.

7. Updates or Concerns on Watched Buildings or Areas (Added Section)
There were no updates or concerns expressed by the members.

8. HERITAGE PERMIT APPLICATIONS (Item 6)
(a) Delegated Approvals:
None
(b) Staff Reports/Recommendations:
None
9. HERITAGE PROPERTY DESIGNATIONS
Robin McKee, who was in the gallery, submitted a letter requesting designation for his newly acquired property on John Street South.

(Manson/Denham)
(a) That the letter from Robin McKee requesting designation for 91 John Street South, known as Edwin Pass Jewellers and Watchmakers be received;
(b) That Hamilton LACAC (Municipal Heritage Committee) supports designation of 91 John Street South and requests that the Economic Development and Planning Committee direct staff to take the necessary steps.

CARRIED

10. DISCUSSION ITEMS

(a) Verbal update respecting Register of Heritage Properties (D. Cuming – no copy) (Item 9.1)
D. Cuming advised that staff was requested to investigate and report back on whether the public or the owner should be informed when a building is added to the Register.

He indicated that due to the size of the proposed register (which could possibly include all of the currently 7,000 listed properties) and the complexities involved in addressing this issue, it will take quite some time to finish the report. He hopes to finalize it within the next two to three months.

A discussion followed as to whether volunteers from LACAC could help. Staff will investigate the feasibility of using volunteers or students.

(b) Discussion on Minimum Property Standards for Designated Heritage Properties (Councillor B. McHattie – no copy). (Item 9.2)
Councillor McHattie advised that in his opinion, resurrecting the Minimum Property Standards by-law would involve educating the Councillors on the purpose of the by-law and including a public consultation process. Councillor McHattie indicated that he will investigate reconsideration of this item at the Economic Development and Planning Committee.
(c) Minutes of the Communication and Education Sub-Committee
(A. Denham(Item 9.3))

(i) Minutes of the Communication and Education Sub-Committee meeting held September 11, 2007.
Alissa Denham provided an overview of the Minutes.

(ii) Minutes of the Communication and Education Sub-Committee meeting held October 1, 2007.
Alissa Denham provided an overview of the Minutes.

(iii) Proposed LACAC Heritage Walking Tour from the Communication and Education Sub-Committee
Alissa Denham provided an overview of the proposed walking tour which includes a list of buildings and a footprint for the Committee's review.
The Committee provided the following input:
• add Gore washrooms to step 1
• mention architectural elements in step 2
• refer issue of liability to staff re: guided walking tours
• get copies of what the former area municipalities have done
• estimate costs

(Manson/Hartnett)
That Items 9.1 to 9.3 be received for information.

CARRIED

10. GENERAL INFORMATION

(a) Verbal update respecting the Inventory of Places of Worship (M. House – no copy) (Item 10.1)
Meghan House advised that staff have completed Volume 7A which outlines the places of worship outside of the former City of Hamilton and it will be sent to the printers and will be available for the November LACAC meeting.

(b) Verbal update respecting Heritage Canada Conference, Edmonton, AB, October 11-14, 2007 (C. Van Sliqtenhorst – no copy) (Item 10.2)
Carolyn Van Sliqtenhorst provided a brief summary of the Heritage Canada Conference which she attended in Edmonton as a
presenter. She indicated that the theme was *Big Plans for Old Places* and it represented collaboration between developers and heritage properties. Her presentation was on the implications of relocating old buildings.

(c) Article from Featured Heritage Buildings entitled “Protecting Our Lighthouses – The Icons of Canada’s Maritime Heritage”. (Added Item 10.3)

Anne Charlton referred to the article, copies of which were distributed, which contained names of contact persons. It was noted that there’s an organization which is fundraising for this initiative and they should be provided with a copy.

Art French advised that on Heritage Day the Ontario Heritage Trust will be kicking off heritage week on February 13 and the ceremony may be held at the Scottish rite.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Charlton, Chair
Hamilton LACAC
(Municipal Heritage Committee)