The meeting was called to order.

1. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)**

   The Clerk noted the following changes, which were approved (Pearson/Manson):

   (i) Added as Item 7.12 – Heritage Matters Magazine, May/June 2006 Issue (to be circulated)

   (ii) A delegation request from Ms. Sherrey Roberts, on behalf of Tim Ehler, respecting 562 Dundas Street East, Waterdown. If this request is approved, it will be added as Item 5.1.
(iii) Added as Item 8.1 – Hamilton LACAC (Municipal Heritage Committee) participation at the Antiques Roadshow: Update on how the event went and sales update on posters, etc. (A. Denham)

(iv) Added as Item 8.2 – Hamilton Celebrates – Update on Education Subcommittee Meeting (June 21, 2006) and to Introduce how Hamilton LACAC (Municipal Heritage Committee) can get involved with Hamilton Celebrates.

(v) At the request of Robin McKee, the Clerk advised Committee that R. McKee was no longer the Community Heritage Ontario (CHO) representative for the Hamilton/Niagara area. Leaving the position unfilled. It was suggested that a member of the Hamilton LACAC (Municipal Heritage Committee) consider applying to the CHO to represent the Hamilton/Niagara area.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were none declared.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 3)

(Pearson/Manson)
That the Hamilton LACAC (Municipal Heritage Committee) meeting Minutes, dated May 18, 2006 be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Chris Murray, Director of the Red Hill Valley Project, and Wendy Shearer, of Wendy Shearer Landscape Architect Limited, respecting "Red Hill Creek Initiatives: Trail System and Interpretation"

Chris Murray, Director of the Red Hill Valley Project and Wendy Shearer, Wendy Shearer Landscape Architect Limited provided a PowerPoint presentation with respect the Red Hill Creek initiatives: Trail System Interpretation.

The following points were brought to the Committee’s attention:

- The stone to be used in any trail markers will be vandal resistant natural stone will be used.
- Donor recognition panels will located at or near trail head.
• Trail markers and interpretative plaques will contain stories that are rich in archaeology and history, which will start from early origins of human activity and range up to recent stories of hot dog roasts, etc. These will be of specific interest; particularly to people who are attending from well outside the area.

• The environmental list involved ecologists, fisheries and forestry and describes diverse plant material and habitat worthy of explaining to visitors.

• Signage will be aimed at young visitors; showing exploration trails within the valley.

• The Grassie Blacksmith Shop is one of the few remaining structures in the valley. It is now completely fenced off in order to protect it from vandalism. An option being examined is to stabilize it as a ruin so the fence around it can be removed to allow the public to get a closer view. It can be used as a strong landmark in the valley.

• The blacksmith stone with original “CG” markings on it are believed to be made by the original owner as well as the ring where animals were tied.

• Staff feels that it is worthy of retention and stabilization, which could be done without a great deal of work. Staff is still investigating an ultimate plan; however, it intended to be used as the entrance feature at the southeast entrance to the trail.

• An incredible amount of engineering work has been done to prevent flooding in valley.

• The project should be open to traffic in the Fall of 2007; however, work will still continue. A staff report is expected to go to Committee of the Whole in July 2006.

• The product will then be taken to public in the Fall of 2006; subsequently staff will be preparing contacts and Requests for Proposals (RFPs) to commence work in the Fall of 2007.

• Ontario has a blacksmith society and staff are investigating to see if the blacksmith shop could be used as a functioning blacksmith shop once again – mainly for educational purposes. Staff is also speaking with the School Boards to determine interest. Universities and colleges are very interested.

• The blacksmith shop dates back to the mid 1800’s and is the last structure of what was known as the Mount Albion Community. The Mount Albion and Mud light post was left standing, as it was the first light placed on Hamilton mountain.

• Timelines for the pedestrian bridge over the QEW need to be negotiated with the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and the contractor. Staff is hoping to have it done earlier than 2008, but this will be determined by the MTO.

• With respect to the historical topics, there is room for additional suggestions. The text would be written by consultants, reviewed by staff and approved by Council.
D. Dent suggested that staff take a look at the blacksmith shop located on the grounds at Redeemer University.

5. DELEGATIONS

5.1 Ms. Sherrey Roberts, on behalf of Tim Ehler, respecting 562 Dundas Street East, Waterdown

On behalf of Mr. Tim Ehler, Ms. Roberts provided Committee with additional information and clarification with respect to their interest in heritage designation for the farmhouse, in which they currently reside, at 562 Dundas Street East, Waterdown.

Councillor McHattie requested that staff speak to the Salem Christian Mental Health Association to determine if they would consider keeping the house on site and using as a common area for the retirement community; such as a coffee shop.

Staff to arrange for a site visit, which is to include S. Wray, to determine if there is any heritage significance to the house, should it be removed from the site. Staff to bring an information memo forward to the August meeting of the Hamilton LACAC (Municipal Heritage Committee).

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 6)

6.1 562 Dundas Street East, Waterdown

This item was discussed together with Item 5.1 - Ms. Sherrey Roberts, on behalf of Tim Ehler, respecting 562 Dundas Street East, Waterdown

It was agreed that Staff would undertake a preliminary heritage assessment and site visit and report back to Committee in August respecting the heritage value of this property.

6.2 Commemorative Plaque Text – Little Africa

(Wray/Wakeman)

That the proposed text for the Little Africa commemorative plaque be received as follows:
Little Africa

During the 19th century, Canada was a refuge for people seeking freedom from slavery. Escaping slaves came to Hamilton from the United States, by the Underground Railroad.

W.B. Green and the Burkholder families donated land located along the Stone Road, now Concession Street on the sparsely populated Hamilton Mountain, establishing the close-knit community known as Little Africa. The area was bounded by present day Upper Wentworth Street, Concession Street, Upper Sherman Avenue and Fennell Avenue. The settlement developed around ‘The Mission’, a multi-purpose one room building, built in 1860 by Richard Bray, and donated as a school and church to any Protestant denomination.

The winters were harsh and with the difficulty of finding full-time work, many abandoned the colony and resettled elsewhere. Many of those that remained adopted new surnames to avoid tracking and recapture. Some chose the names Johnson, Nelson, Banks, Atkins, Carey, Murdoch, Green and Berry.

By 1865, over 200 Blacks had built homes, planted gardens and found work on farms or with the railway industry. The Berry family maintained the tollgate that stood near the corner of Concession Street and Upper Wentworth. ‘Daddy’ Nelson and Henry Johnson were gravediggers. Many of the Black settlers were buried in unmarked graves in the Burkholder Cemetery.

Hamilton expanded and by the 1920s the descendants of the original Little Africa settlers prospered and moved elsewhere. The community of Little Africa simply faded away.

Erected by the Hamilton Historical Board,
With the assistance of the Ontario Heritage Trust, 2006.

6.3 Designation Plaques – Beach Canal; Keepers’ Dwelling and Lighthouse

1858
Circular stone lighthouse,
55 feet high, white limestone,
built by John Brown,
decommissioned 1961.
1857
“Keeper’s Dwelling”
1 ½ storey brick house, continuously occupied by successive keepers from 1857 to 1991.

It was noted that staff has agreed to pay for one plaque from the account used for the Hamilton LACAC (Municipal Heritage Committee).

(Wray/Pearson)
That the proposed text for the Beach Canal Lighthouse and the Beach Canal Keeper’s Dwelling designation plaque be approved.

CARRIED

6.4 Commemorative Plaque Text – Augustus Jones

AUGUSTUS JONES (c. 1757 – 1836)

Augustus Jones, land speculator, gentleman farmer, and surveyor, was born circa 1757 in New York State. In 1787, following training as a surveyor in New York City, Jones moved to Niagara where Loyalist refugees from the American War of Independence were creating a huge demand for land.

Beginning work as a chain bearer, Jones quickly advanced to the position of assistant to Philip Frey, Deputy Surveyor. Their work during the next twenty months resulted in the laying out of 14 townships in the Niagara Peninsula, extending from Bertie in the southeast to Barton at the Head of the Lake, and including Grimsby, Binbrook and Saltfleet.

In 1789, Jones replaced Frey, and for the next decade, surveyed thousands of acres of frontier wilderness. As well, he formalized the boundaries of the Six Nations along the Grand River, surveyed the greater part of York Township and a portion of the town site of York (Toronto), laid out Niagara Township and the town site of Lenox (Newark, later Niagara-on-the-Lake), and undertook the survey of Upper Canada's two major military roads, Dundas Street (Governor's Road) which connected York with the southwestern Ontario frontier, and Yonge Street, still the longest street in Canada.

(Wray/Wakeman)
That the proposed text for the Augustus Jones commemorative plaque be approved.

CARRIED
6.5 Commemorative Plaque Text – The Summers’ Legacy

The Summers’ Legacy

Management of Hamilton’s unique Summers Theatre, built in 1902 at the top of the Wentworth Street Incline Railway, was taken over from William B. Sherman by George Summers Theatre Enterprises in 1906. Summers employed forty people and operated for eleven consecutive summer seasons from August 1904 until the theatre burned down on December 21, 1914. George and his wife, Belle, produced, directed and acted in approximately 150 plays with a total of 1,100 performances, which stands as a North American record for a stock company. With a reputation for outstanding productions, the theatre’s 700 seats were filled for every performance. George Summers planned to build a grand 2,000-seat theatre complex, making it the forerunner of Hamilton Place, but the City refused permission.

George Summers began his acting career at the age of sixteen in Toronto in 1881. A decade later he married Isabella Mary Stevenson. By 1895, Summers was operating his own theatre stock company which toured North America. His genius was in character creation and an amazing ability to speak dialects, as in his most popular portrayal of Rip Van Winkle (shown here). Easily recognized as Canada’s greatest comedic actor, Summers’ last performance in Hamilton was in 1917 in the widely acclaimed comedy, “In Walked Jimmy”. He wrote and adapted his own plays and had a natural talent for writing in beautiful poetic verse. After forty years on the stage and operating various theatre enterprises, Summers retired in 1920 to look after his widowed mother. He died in 1941 and is buried in St. James Cemetery, Toronto.

Isabella Mary Stevenson, George Summers’ wife, was born in Amherstburg, Ontario, and in 1877 began her acting career at the age of eight. She first appeared in Hamilton at the Grand Opera House in 1890, playing the lead in the opera “Snow White”. Despite playing comedic roles opposite her husband, Isabella was best known for her outstanding dramatic performances in emotionally charged plays such as “East Lynne”. After the Summers Theatre burned down, Isabella retired, and devoted her life to her church and Hamilton Mountain community. She directed plays for the church’s dramatic society, raising money to build the theatre-like St. Stephen’s Parish Hall on Concession Street. From 1926 to 1933, she directed student plays at Central Collegiate. Isabella died in 1947 and is buried in Burkholder Cemetery on Mohawk Road in Hamilton.

Mable Ruth Summers made her acting debut in 1896 at the age of three, and became the Canadian “Shirley Temple” of her day, giving singing performances during the intermissions of her parents’ plays as “Little Queen Mab”. In 1903, she appeared opposite her father as Rip Van
Winkle’s daughter and was described as a coming star. By 1911, she was old enough to play regular supporting roles, and appeared in practically every Summers Theatre production thereafter. Her professional acting career ended when she married James Keenan in 1914, the same year the Summers Theatre burned down. Mable shared her mother’s deep charitable interest in her Hamilton Mountain Community, directing plays for the St. Stephen’s Young Peoples’ Association. She died in 1948, and is buried next to her mother in Burkholder Cemetery.

**Hazel Florence Summers** was given a piano by her father for her fifth birthday. A musical prodigy, she became the St. Stephen Church organist at the age of thirteen. Performing at many venues, Hazel became president and life-member of the Hamilton Duet Club. During her life, she earned many music certificates, including a Bachelor of Music Degree from McMaster University at the age of seventy-six. She married Alan Sym Kompass in 1936. Hazel was a well-known music teacher all her life, and joined the Players’ Guild of Hamilton in 1930, becoming an award-winning actress. She retired from the state in 1954 after starring with her son, Paul, in the “Winslow Boy”. Hazel joined the Hamilton Historical Board in 1973 to champion the cause of establishing an Archive for the Performing Arts at Hamilton Place. She died in 1999, and is buried in Hamilton’s Woodland Cemetery.

**Raymond Ambrose Gates Summers** was born in 1908. Described as a born entertainer he became a member of the English Players of Hamilton at the age of sixteen, and progressed to repertory theatre, touring the Midwest as a vaudeville comedian. Gifted with a beautiful resonant voice, in 1929, he chose the new entertainment medium of radio for a career at Hamilton radio station CKOC. By 1937, he had gained such a popularity that he was hired by the CBC and radio station CBLT in Toronto. Ray was well known as the announcer for Canadian radio dramas such as “Road to Life”, “Ma Perkins” and “Our Family”; for musical programs like “Percy Faith” and “Singing Stars of Tomorrow”, and for many sporting events. A champion tennis player, he died in Ormand Beach Florida in 1975.

(Wray/Manson)

That the proposed text for The Summers’ Legacy commemorative plaque be approved.

CARRIED

6.6 Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration – Call for Nominations for the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship

(Pearson/Wakeman)

That the information be received.

CARRIED
7. GENERAL INFORMATION

7.1 Municipal Heritage Committee Manual

S. Vattay distributed to members the Ministry of Culture’s “Ontario Heritage Tool Kit” together with a Staff produced “Hamilton LACAC (Municipal Heritage Committee) Handbook”

S. Vattay provided an overview of the package. Members were requested to sign for these manuals and when their term is complete, return them to the City for use by new members.

7.2 Hamilton Heritage - Volume 7; Places of Worship

S. Wray informed Committee that “Volume 7 – Places of Worship” has started, but will be massive project. However, Z. Horn, A. Charlton, A. French and S. Wray will inventory all places of worship constructed prior to 1967 and which remain in use. There will be an appendix, which will contain a list of places of worship that have been demolished or lost as well as a listing of places of worship that have been constructed since 1967. History, comments and research material will also be included. S. Wray is hoping to have the material collected and ready for distribution to Committee members around January 2007.

7.3 Heritage Permit Application, 71 Main Street West (City Hall) (Ward 2)
Copy of approval letter.

7.4 Heritage Permit Application, 31 Cross Street, Dundas (Ward 13)
Copy of denial letter.

7.5 Heritage Permit Application, 14 Mary Street (Ward 2)
Copy of approval letter.

7.6 Heritage Permit Application, 38 John Street East, Waterdown (Ward 15)
Copy of approval letter.

7.7 Heritage Permit Application, 127 Mill Street North, Waterdown (Ward 15)
Copy of approval letter.
7.8 Joint Plaquing Sub-committee Minutes, dated May 2, 2006

7.9 Joint Plaquing Sub-committee Minutes, dated June 6, 2006

7.10 Correspondence from Frank, McCormick & Khalaf, LLC Architects, dated May 1, 2006

The Architectural firm of Frank, McCormick & Khalaf, LLC Architects is a Canadian/American partnership who professes to have a solid background in historic preservation architecture submitted a copy of the firm’s brochure along with resumes and a project experience profile, which were provided to Committee for information.

7.11 Endangered Buildings and Landscapes:

(a) Victoria Hall, 68 King Street East (NHS, D) – P. Shaker

Staff has received a heritage permit application for this site and the owner has also applied for funding from both the Provincial and Federal government.

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

Treble Hall is adjacent to the Kit Kat building, which is being redeveloped through Hamilton Housing. The building will have 5 stories for residential use. However, there are issues at back of building, which is shared with Treble Hall. The owner has appealed the City’s project to the Ontario Municipal Board. Councillor McHattie will attempt to speak to the owner about connecting Kit Kat building to Treble Hall for future residential use.

(c) Red Hill Creek Valley, Hamilton (L, ND) – Councillor M. Pearson

This item was discussed in the presentation provided by Chris Murray in Item 4.1. The blacksmith shop is owned by the City and was originally part of lands acquired to develop the Red Hill Valley Parkway. The building is being conserved and managed properly.
(d) **Lister Block, 28-40 James Street North, Hamilton (D) – D. Dent**

This matter is currently in the hands of the Minister of Culture who will advise Council of the Ministry’s decision. A mediator has been put in place to assist. The demolition permit application will be part of the mediation discussions.

The Minister has two powers with respect to this matter:

(i) After the 59th day of the Council approved 60 day demolition delay on the heritage permit, the Minister can impose another 60 day stop order, if desired, on the basis that the building may be of provincial significance.

(ii) The Minister has the right to designate the building under the Ontario Municipal Act if the property is of provincial cultural heritage value.

The Clerk was asked to determine the calendar day that the 60 day period was over and e-mail it to members of the Committee.

(e) **Auchmar, 88 Fennell Avenue West, Hamilton (D) – D. Dent**

Staff met with the Manager of Real Estate and the Executive Director of Economic Development and agreed to prepare a number of adaptive re-use and design concepts for the City-owned 10 acre estate.

In the past developers have come forward with routine plans of subdivision only. Staff is preparing concepts that limit any new construction to those areas that contained the dormitory and chapel structures which are considered to be of no heritage value. Adaptive re-use and design concepts include use of the estate and heritage buildings for a small conference centre or a variety of residential uses.

Staff will forward the design concepts to the Ontario Heritage Trust, who holds a heritage conservation easement on the property, for their comments on these concepts.

Some drainage work has been done at Auchmar to divert water away from building.
(f) **Gate House at Auchmar, 71 Claremont Drive, Hamilton – Michelle Stark**

The Clerk will follow up with Property Standards staff to see when the property will be cleaned up.

(g) **Smart-Turner Building, 191 Barton Street E. (ND, L) – D. Dent**

This matter is scheduled to come forward to the Planning and Economic Development Committee in September 2006.

(h) **St. Marks, 120 Bay Street South, Hamilton (D) – D. Dent**

An appraisal has been undertaken and staff is reviewing four or five options of reuse for the property. Councillor McHattie volunteered to meet with staff respecting the status.

(i) **Tivoli, 108 James Street North, Hamilton – Councillor B. McHattie**

Councillor Bratina is diligently working on this matter.

(j) **Adam Book House, 167 Book Road East, Ancaster – A. Charlton**

Ann Charlton continues to be in contact with John O’Brien of the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of the Diocese of Hamilton.

(k) **2 Hatt Street, Dundas – Frances Neufeld**

No update.

7.12 **Heritage Matters Magazine, May/June 2006 Issue**

(Kathy/bill)

That Items 7.1 through 7.12 be received.  

CARRIED
8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 LACAC at the Antiques Roadshow: Update on how the event went and sales update on posters, etc.

There was a cross section of 3,000 to 5,000 people in attendance; both showing and visiting. People were inquiring as to how to designate their properties. The Education Sub-committee is thinking of hand out to use in the future for those who are interested in designating their properties.

The Doors of Hamilton and Stone Terrace posters were the biggest sellers.

8.2 Hamilton Celebrates (October 2005 Issue) – Update on Education Sub-committee Meeting (June 21, 2006) and to Introduce how Hamilton LACAC (Municipal Heritage Committee) can get involved with Hamilton Celebrates

A. Denham provided the Committee with a copy of Hamilton Celebrates, October 2005 issue, from the Mayor’s Office and Hamilton Tourism and advised Committee that staff is looking for people who can provide suggestions and/or events listings for the 2006 Issue. The event listings may be for anything occurring in the month of October and the listing is free.

Hamilton Celebrates also celebrates people. Nominations for the Hamilton Celebrates V.I.P. Awards may be submitted by anyone and for anyone in community may be nominated. Everyone who is nominated receives an award and is recognized at Council.

The nomination form, contained in the Hamilton Celebrates handout, should be completed and submitted on or before Monday, September 25, 2006.

The Education Sub-committee will maintain communications with Hamilton Celebrates. Hamilton LACAC (Municipal Heritage Committee) members who have event listings can contact Alissa Denham. Submissions should be placed no later than August 11, 2006, as the next meeting for Hamilton Celebrates is August 30, 2006.

9. ADJOURNMENT

(Wray/Wakeman)

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

CARRIED