



**MINUTES FROM THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE
MAIN STREET MARKHAM COMMITTEE IN 2011**

**Town of Markham
York Room - Civic Centre**

November 16, 2011 – 5:45 p.m.

Members

Diane Kobelansky
Dianne More
Helen Walter
Keith Thirgood
Phil Howes
Ardy Reid
Jennifer Peters-Morales
Churchill Piggott
David Konkle
Peter Ross
Ibrahim Ali
Councillor Campbell
Councillor Carolina Moretti

Regrets

Jonathan Mingay

Staff

Carlie Turpin, Committee Secretary
George Duncan, Senior Heritage Planner

Guests

Alex Hardy
Joyce Ramer

The meeting of the Main Street Markham Committee convened at 5:52 p.m. with George Duncan acting as chair, who began by asking for any declarations of interest with respect to items on the agenda. No declarations were made. Councillor Campbell took over as chair upon his arrival following the adoption of the minutes. Copies of the Vision Statement were provided to all new Committee members.

1. MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 19, 2011 MEETING

THE MAIN STREET MARKHAM COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

That the Minutes of the Main Street Markham Committee meeting held on October 19, 2011, be adopted.

CARRIED

2. UPDATES:

Councillor Campbell arrived and assumed the chair position.

a) **Main Street Markham** Environmental Assessment/ Detailed Design Stage

i. **Current Status of Project**

Peter Ross advised the detailed design work is divided into 3 parts, 90% of the design work should be completed by December for the area north of 16th Ave. Middle section between Hwy.7 & 16th Ave. has just reached the 60% completion level of the design phase completed for review. Third phase, between 407 & Hwy. 7 was only recently awarded and has had its kick off meeting with staff. The first area for construction will be the middle section, between Hwy. 7 & Bullock (500m). A two year construction period is proposed but there is a desire to reduce the amount of time required for street disruption. The BIA and Town Staff need to communicate how to proceed with construction as there are a number of options currently being discussed.

Helen Waters advised the Community Advisory Group would like to maintain a steering role with respect to the designs. She also would like to create a positive campaign regarding the construction disruptions and educate the public that this will be a long term asset to Main St.

Phil Howes advised there may be an issue with the sewers potentially backing up and causing damage to businesses during this construction.

ii. **Status of community advisory group meeting**

Current proposal is to host the meeting on December 15, 2011. Detailed design of the area between 16th Ave. & Hwy. 7 should be 50-60% complete by that time. There are concerns that the majority of the design work will be completed before the CAG meeting actually takes place.

Councillor Campbell advised he and Councillor Moretti had a meeting today with Town staff to review the design. They voiced a concern that the CAG meeting has yet to occur but the new date is tentatively December 15. Councillor Campbell believes there will be a little bit of a delay in the project, but is working with the BIA to overcome construction obstacles.

b) Interpretive Sub-Committee – Phase 2 of Interpretive Streetscape Program

George Duncan advised the sub-committee had not met recently due to other priorities that have come into play. Research for the interpretive streetscape has been completed and Town staff has met with Phil Howes to discuss developing this as a web based program. Staff will discuss with Corporate Communications to determine how the web site can be developed in accordance with Town policies and develop the Terms of Reference.

c) Incoming Planning Applications:

George Duncan advised planning applications have been received for the following locations: new site plan application for 15 George St., building permits approved for 41 Albert St., 49 Church St., 48 George St., 58 Nelson St. and 101 Main St. N. (Scotia Bank).

d) Parking Lot Signs and Installation of Northbound Sign

Councillor Campbell advised the sign will be installed.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a) Proposed New Bench Design for Markham Parks & Main St. Markham

George Duncan advised the Town's Operations Department is looking at new benches for Markham to standardize the design across the Town. He displayed pictures of the proposed new benches to the committee. Benches have a heritage design but the frame is aluminum to limit hazards associated with wrought iron. The material the bench is made out of is thought to be more durable than current benches. Committee was asked to provide comments/feedback regarding the bench design. George advised the Town has already purchased a number of these benches to be placed into parks. Before the benches will be installed on Main St., the Town is seeking feedback from the committee.

Committee members would prefer the benches be installed in the spring, not winter. They would like to know if the faux wood on the benches comes in any different colours, specifically darker.

THE MAIN STREET MARKHAM COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

That the Committee supports the design of the new benches, but would like the slats of the benches to be a darker brown to appear more authentic.

Moved by Diane Kobelansky
Seconded by Keith Thirgood

CARRIED

b) Awning Sign on Main St. North

Keith advised there is a business on Main St. that is a real estate office with a new awning sign brightly lit from underneath. It creates a distraction for drivers and detracts from the heritage character of the area.

ACTION ITEM: George to determine if a sign permit has been issued for this location and determine if the sign is in compliance with the by-law.

5. NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting of the Main Street Markham committee is December 21, 2012.

THE MAIN STREET MARKHAM COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

That the December meeting be cancelled due to busy holiday schedules and the committee reconvenes on January 18, 2012.

Moved by Councillor Moretti
Seconded by Keith Thirgood

CARRIED

6. ADJOURNMENT

The Main Street Markham Committee meeting adjourned at 6:42 P.M.