



MINUTES

BRANTFORD CULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, May 12, 2021

1:00 PM
VIRTUAL (ZOOM)

**Sara Munroe
Manager of Tourism, Culture & Sport**

Please note: Agenda is available on-line at www.brantford.ca

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Brantford Cultural Advisory Committee
MINUTES
Wednesday, May 12, 2021
1:00 PM
Virtual (Zoom)

Sara Munroe called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm

1.0 ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Councillor Cheryl Antoski, Tara Bryk, Mayor Kevin Davis, Neha Gutkar, David McKee, Ana Olson, Vern Payne, Martin Smith, Lorna Stratton, Councillor Joshua Wall

REGRETS: Muskan Grover, Arlene Laskey

STAFF: Sara Munroe, James Clark

2.0 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

2.1 Election of Chair

Moved By: David McKee
Seconded By: Councillor Antoski

THAT Martin Smith BE NOMINATED for the position of Chair of the Brantford Cultural Advisory Committee.

CARRIED.

With no further nominations, Martin Smith was appointed as Chair of the Brantford Cultural Advisory Committee.

2.2 Election of Vice-Chair

Moved By: Neha Gutkar
Seconded By: David McKee

THAT Neha Gutkar BE NOMINATED for the position of Vice-Chair of the Brantford Cultural Advisory Committee.

CARRIED.

With no further nominations, Neha Gutkar was appointed as Vice-Chair of the Brantford Cultural Advisory Committee.

Martin Smith assumed the position of Chair for the remainder of the Brantford Cultural Advisory Committee meeting.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
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There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

4. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

There were no presentations/delegations.

5. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Councillor Antoski requested that the Cultural Hub Task Force Update (Item 6.4.4) be moved up to the beginning of the agenda. There were no objections to consider this item first.

MOVED BY: Ana Olson

SECONDED BY: Neha Gutkar

THAT the Cultural Hub Task Force Update BE RECEIVED.

6.4.4 Cultural Hub Task Force

Councillor Antoski provided an update to the Committee on a Notice of Motion that was brought forward to Committee of the Whole – Operations and Administration in April 2021. The Notice of Motion was provided on-screen and read aloud by Councillor Antoski:

WHEREAS the City of Brantford's Cultural Hub Task Force is anticipated to meet its mandate in June 2021 and is expected to make recommendations to Brantford City Council by the beginning of Q3 2021; and

WHEREAS Brantford City Council established a Consolidated Museum and Archives Facility Task Force in 2020 to focus on, and make recommendations with respect to, actions that should be taken by the City of Brantford to consult with the Brantford museum community (staff and volunteers) and larger community to determine the desire for, and feasibility of, a consolidated museum and archives facility in the City of Brantford;

WHEREAS the mandates of both Task Forces align and complement one another, and efficiencies can be realized by incorporating the research and deliverables of the Cultural Hub Task Force with the mandate and anticipated deliverables of the Consolidated Museum & Archives Task Force;

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Cultural Hub Task Force BE DISBANDED upon the completion of identifying a location for a cultural hub in Brantford as the final deliverable within the Task Force mandate to be received at Council on or before September 30, 2021; and
- B. THAT the Consolidated Museum & Archives Task Force BE DISBANDED having not assembled to date; and
- C. THAT a new Task Force BE ESTABLISHED and named the Community Heritage & Cultural Space Task Force; and
- D. THAT the Community Heritage & Cultural Space Task Force BE COMPRISED of the following members:
 - a. Representatives from Brantford City Council, being Councillor Antoski, Councillor McCreary, Councillor Utley, Councillor Sless and Councillor Wall; and
 - b. Four citizen appointees; and
- E. THAT the Task Force BE SUPPORTED by:
 - a. City of Brantford staff liaisons, selected by the Chief Administrative Officer, who will provide technical and operational advice, and staff assistance; and
 - b. The City Clerk, or designate, to assist with agenda preparation, minute taking, and meeting preparations; and
 - c. Other staff as needed to support the mandate and deliverables of the Task Force; and
- F. THAT the deliverables of the Community Heritage & Cultural Space Task Force BE ESTABLISHED to serve as a governance entity that focuses on, and makes recommendations with respect to, actions that should be taken by the City of Brantford to consult with the Brantford museum community (staff and volunteers) and larger community to determine the desire for, and feasibility of, a consolidated museum and archives facility in the City of Brantford; and
 - 1. Conduct consultation with the wider cultural community, as well as the staff and volunteers of all museums, within the exterior boundaries of the City of Brantford, that meet the International Council of Museums' definition of a "museum", to determine the desire for, and feasibility of, a community heritage and cultural space in the City of Brantford;
 - 2. Conduct public consultation to determine the desire for a community heritage and cultural space in the City of Brantford that incorporates the research results conducted by the Cultural Hub Task Force, including the Feasibility Study for a Mid-Sized Performance Space;

3. Solicit expressions of interest from the heritage and cultural community, and other applicable public interest groups;
4. Investigate the feasibility of relocating and incorporating the Brantford Farmers' Market into a community heritage and cultural space;
5. Investigate the feasibility, and demand for, a large shared community space that could accommodate charitable events, such as the Brantford Symphony Orchestra's Annual Book Fair or Community Resource Service (Brantford Food Bank)'s Christmas Baskets program;
6. Develop a budget for a community heritage and cultural space in Brantford, if project is deemed desired;
7. Identify a location for a community heritage and cultural space in Brantford, if project is deemed desired;
8. Develop a feasibility study and action plan that outlines how the Task Force can be a catalyst and advocate for the project; and

G. THAT the term of the Task Force BE ESTABLISHED until such a time as the Task Force, in consultation with support staff, recommends their disbandment having achieved their mandate; and

H. THAT the Community Heritage & Cultural Space Task Force BE DIRECTED to report to Committee of the Whole – Operations and Administration on a proposed location and capital and operation funding needs and proposed sources by December 31, 2021.

Councillor Wall left the meeting (video off) at 1:10pm.

Councillor Antoski noted that members of Council had questions and expressed some concerns during the meeting. The link to the YouTube video of the meeting will be circulated to members following the meeting.

Mayor Davis summarized some of the concerns articulated to Councillors, and encouraged members to watch the video. Some concerns included:

- The concept is very ambitious – could it be too ambitious? Are we trying to do too much in one facility?
- Impact on the Cultural Hub Task Force and their investigation into a smaller performing arts space in Brantford that is focused on the needs of the performing arts community.
- Glenhyrst has already submitted a proposal, and Wilfrid Laurier University is working on a proposal. There was concern that this resolution may impede these proposals and lose the essence of what

the Cultural Hub Task Force has been trying to achieve since late 2015.

Councillor Wall returned to the meeting at 1:16pm.

Vern Payne addressed some of the same concerns, including the primary concern that the Cultural Hub Task Force has been working for a number of years to come to a solution, and it feels like that work has been brushed aside.

Ana Olson wondered if this Task Force is assembled, is it under the same conditions as the Cultural Hub Task Force? The City has noted multiple times that they are not interested in operating an additional performing arts space. Will the City consider being the operator in a Consolidated Museum and Archives space? Ana also noted that Glenhyrst and Laurier should both be given time to update their proposals to include museum and ancillary facilities if the community need has changed.

Mayor Davis noted that this was not his resolution, but being as fair to the original intent of the resolution, we do need to give consideration to having this space be City operated. The Task Force is not intended to actually create the space, but just look at the feasibility. If we bring in more partners, there may be more momentum and opportunities for the City to consider operating the space.

Lorna Stratton expressed concern that the performing arts will be an afterthought and their needs will not be addressed. Lorna is also concerned that the makeup of the Task Force simply states that there will be four citizens; that is not the same as having a representative from the performing arts at the table. Not including someone from the Brantford Cultural Advisory Committee seems like an oversight.

Councillor Antoski thanked all members and Mayor Davis for their comments, and assured that most of these concerns have been verbalized and debated. Councillor Antoski shares many of these concerns. There was a lot of good conversation and respect for the work that has already been completed by the Cultural Hub Task Force. The Cultural Hub Task Force may still recommend one of the two proposals from either Laurier or Glenhyrst. One option could be to expand the mandate of the Cultural Hub Task Force to include museums; if the mandate is changing, it should be made clear to the public and those who submitted their proposals.

This resolution has not been decided on yet. Members may have some recommendations for any changes they'd like to see in the resolution at the May 25 Council meeting.

Councillor Wall's concern with the resolution in its current state is that it perhaps muddies the waters of the original intent. He encouraged members to address concern by calling or emailing him in advance of the Council

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meeting. Councillor Wall does not see a dilemma with moving forward with the new Task Force, but we must not lose sight of the original mandate of the Cultural Hub.

Lorna Stratton noted that she has many concerns and feels that this resolution is “jumping the gun.” The Cultural Hub Task Force should have the time to reach a natural conclusion. She would recommend tabling this new Task Force until the Cultural Hub has completed its work.

Neha noted that new members may bring in new ideas.

Staff reminded the Committee that this item is not currently on the floor for an amendment, as it is a Council resolution. This resolution has not yet been voted on, and there is still time to make a delegation or submit comments to members of Council in advance of the May 25 meeting.

Ana Olson noted that she thinks it would be worthwhile for someone from the Brantford Cultural Advisory Committee to delegate to Council. We would be doing all of our work a disservice if we didn’t communicate to Council how important the work to date has been for the Committee. There are concerns that the current makeup will not be representative of the comprehensive needs of the cultural community.

MOVED BY: Tara Bryk

SECONDED BY: David McKee

THAT the Cultural Hub Task Force Update BE RECEIVED.

That Lorna Stratton and Vern Payne BE REQUESTED to delegate on behalf of the Brantford Cultural Advisory Committee at the May 25 meeting of Brantford City Council.

CARRIED

5.1 Election of Cultural and Built Heritage Grant Program Advisory Committee Liaison

Sara provided a brief update on the committee and the number of meetings that the members would be required to attend each year.

MOVED BY: Councillor Wall

SECONDED BY: Ana Olson

THAT David McKee BE NOMINATED for the position of Cultural and Built Heritage Grant Program Advisory Committee Liaison.

CARRIED.

With no further nominations, David McKee was appointed as Cultural and Built Heritage Grant Program Advisory Committee Liaison.

5.2 Walter Gretzky Lord Mayor Tribute Bust and Branch 90 Legion Cairn Public Art Proposals (Report #2021-388)

Ana Olson declared a conflict of interest and did not participate in the discussion about item 5.2.

MOVED BY: Lorna

SECONDED BY: Neha Gutkar

- A. THAT Report 2021-388 regarding the Walter Gretzky Lord Mayor Tribute Bust and Branch 90 Legion Cairn Public Art Proposals BE RECEIVED; and**
- B. THAT the Walter Gretzky Lord Mayor Tribute Bust project BE ACCEPTED AS PROPOSED by Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant as a donation to the City's Public Art Collection in accordance with the required City policies and procedures; and**
- C. THAT the City of Brantford NEGOTIATE a donation agreement with Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant to accept the Walter Gretzky Lord Mayor Tribute Bust as a donation to the Public Art Collection; and**
- D. THAT the Walter Gretzky Lord Mayor Tribute Bust BE INCORPORATED into the new City Hall Renovation Project; and**
- E. THAT the Branch 90 Legion Cairn proposal BE ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE contingent on receiving approval for 50% of the project through the Community War Memorials funding program; 25% from the Public Art Reserve; and 25% of the project from the Legion; and**
- F. THAT up to \$3,777 BE ALLOCATED from the Public Art Reserve toward costs associated with the Branch 90 Legion Cairn should the conditions in (E) be met.**

Sara Munroe provided a brief synopsis of Report 2021-388.

Mayor Davis had been speaking with the Gretzky family with different ways that the City wanted to honour their family. Of all of the various ideas, this is the one they are most excited about and they are very moved by the proposal.

MOVED: Councillor Antoski

SECONDED: Lorna Stratton

THAT Clause F BE REMOVED and Clause E BE AMENDED to read:

- E. THAT the Branch 90 Legion Cairn proposal BE ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE contingent on receiving approval for 50% of the project through the Community War Memorials funding program; 25% of the project BE ALLOCATED from the Public Art Reserve to an upset limit of up to \$3,777; and 25% of the project from the Legion.**

CARRIED AS AMENDED

6. CONSENT ITEMS

6.1 MINUTES

6.1.1. Brantford Cultural Advisory Committee - February 12, 2020

MOVED BY: Vern Payne
SECONDED BY: David McKee

THAT the minutes of the February 12, 2020 meeting of the Brantford Cultural Advisory Committee BE ADOPTED.

CARRIED.

6.2. Council Update

MOVED BY: Vern Payne
SECONDED BY: Neha Gutkar

THAT the Council Update BE RECEIVED.

Councillor Wall noted that in June the first rainbow crosswalk will be installed in the downtown core in collaboration with Brantford Pride and Brantford BRIDGE. It will be installed on Colborne Street outside of the library.

Council also approved 4 flagpoles to be installed in Harmony Square.

CARRIED.

6.3. Department Update

MOVED BY: Councillor Antoski
SECONDED: Ana Olson

THAT the Department Update BE RECEIVED.

Sara Munroe provided “big picture” updates about the last year in the Tourism Division, including:

- The Municipal Cultural Plan Annual Report was presented to Committee of the Whole – Operations and Administration last week. A link will be circulated to members.
- The Economic Development & Tourism Department’s annual report also went forward at this same meeting, which included details about the

- Economic Recovery Task Force and Action Plan and the success of the growing film sector.
- The Tourism Division has been playing a key role in the Department's Economic Recovery efforts over the last year through our involvement with the Mayor's Economic Recovery Task Force.
 - Staff has led the #BrantfordTogether campaign and numerous local and regional campaigns and projects supported by a \$178K+ Regional Relief Recovery Fund (RRRF) grant.
 - The Tourism Division launched the brand new www.discoverbrantford.ca website in early 2021.
 - We hope that once restrictions ease and the snow melts, we can start welcoming our neighbours back to enjoy physically-distanced activities here in Brantford.
 - The Brantford Visitor & Tourism Centre remains closed to the public until further notice.
 - Visitor Services will be moving to the Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre, hopefully with a new welcome desk completed by the fall of 2021.
 - Late last year, the Economic Development & Tourism Department took over the management of the Brantford & Area Sports Hall of Recognition in the Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre.
 - The Division's marketing plan is now complete and will be circulated to the Committee as information.
 - Significant staff changes in 2020 included:
 - Kara Davey, Arts & Culture Development Officer (formerly Tourism Marketing Coordinator) started in March 2020
 - Amber Kane, Corporate Tourism & Sponsorship Coordinator started in April 2020
 - Chelsey Tobin, Tourism Marketing Coordinator started in July 2020
 - Aisha Godbout, Ontario 55+ Winter Games Coordinator & Tourism Marketing and Services Assistant started in February 2020, completed a short contract from November 2020-May 2021, and has returned to her former position in May 2021.

Mayor Davis left the meeting at 2:25pm.

Councillor Wall commended the Economic Development and Tourism Department for all of their hard work and the new content regularly being pushed out by the Department.

Tara Bryk left the meeting at 2:28pm.

CARRIED.

6.4. Working Groups, Sub-Committees and Liaisons Updates

MOVED BY: David McKee
SECONDED: Neha Gutkar

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THAT the BE RECEIVED Working Groups, Sub-Committees and Liaisons Updates BE RECEIVED.

6.4.1 Tourism Advisory Committee

The Committee's last meeting was in February 2020. There is no report.

6.4.2. Brant Museums & Galleries Association

Ana Olson provided an update and noted:

- BMGA has been meeting throughout the pandemic virtually.
- The museum sector has been decimated by the pandemic. Most museums have been closed and it has been difficult for fundraising. Although online activities were successful at the beginning of the pandemic and through summer 2020, it is becoming harder to have participation especially with warmer weather.
- BMGA had a joint meeting with the Brant Performing Arts group. The meeting led to finding a lot of strong synergies and opportunities to meet each other and talk about how they can work together.
- Within the Museum Sustainability Plan, it was recommended that museums meet the Imagine Canada standards. Tourism staff hosted a workshop with a consultant to discuss the Imagine Canada standards and how the museums can reach those standards.
- Nathan Etherington from the Brant Historical Society received funding to develop a joint Museum Passport project.

6.4.3. Brant Performing Arts

Lorna Stratton provided an update and noted:

- The joint meeting with the BMGA helped organizations look through another lens when looking at their programming and planning.
- BPA has been meeting virtually monthly since September and appreciate the mutual support.
- Some groups have been able to hold outdoor concerns while others have been on complete hold for public performances. Some groups are live streaming concerts and live theatre.
- The BPA would be concerned with the Council recommendation to disband the Cultural Hub Task Force.
- There was an issue raised about renting City parks and the fees associated with rentals

Neha Gutkar left the meeting (on-screen) at 2:33pm.

Neha Gutkar returned to the meeting at 2:39pm.

Councillor Antoski encouraged Lorna Stratton, as BPA Liaison, to send information about the Cultural Hub Task Force to the BPA to consider a delegation at this month's Council meeting.

Neha Gutkar left the meeting (on-screen) at 2:40pm.

Neha Gutkar returned to the meeting at 2:43pm.

Ana Olson noted that Glenhyrst has access to the interior part of the Gallery, they also have to pay the park fees for rentals, such as for Taste of Glenhyrst. This is cost prohibitive for presenting events like “Shakespeare in the Park”. This is the kind of programming that Glenhyrst wants to be part of.

MOVED BY: Ana Olson
SECONDED BY: Vern Payne

THAT a discussion with regard to fee schedules in City parks and facilities for performing arts groups BE ADDED to the next BCAC agenda; and

THAT a staff representative from the Parks Services Department BE INVITED to the meeting to clarify these existing fees.

6.4.4. Cultural Hub Task Force

This item was discussed previously.

6.4.5. Cultural and Built Heritage Grant Program Advisory Committee

There was no update.

6.4.6. Public Art Sub-Committee

There was no update.

6.4.7. Community Liaisons

There was no update.

CARRIED.

7. RESOLUTIONS

There were no resolutions.

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

THAT a discussion with regard to fee schedules in City parks and facilities for performing arts groups BE ADDED to the next BCAC agenda; and

THAT a staff representative from the Parks Services Department BE INVITED to the meeting to clarify these existing fees.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY: David McKee

THAT the meeting of the Brantford Cultural Advisory Committee BE ADJOURNED.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50pm.