Minutes

A meeting of the Heritage Centre Advisory Committee of the City of Richmond Hill was held at the Heritage Centre, 19 Church Street North, on Wednesday April 24, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. with the following members in attendance:

Weibo Cheng
Tina D'Acunto
Samir Dossal
Nancy Spinks
Jim Vollmershausen
Councillor West

Staff:

Karin Ash, Manager of Cultural Services
Maggie MacKenzie, Heritage Services Coordinator
Brian Inglis, Legislative and Projects Advisor/Lottery License Officer

Welcome and Introductions

- Maggie MacKenzie, Heritage Services Coordinator, welcomed members to the Committee and introductions were made.

- Brian Inglis, Legislative and Projects Advisor/Lottery License Officer, Office of the Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to members.

The meeting was called to order by M. MacKenzie at 7:15 p.m.

M. MacKenzie indicated that she will only Chair the inaugural meeting and that at the end of this meeting nominations for the Committee chairperson would occur.

Review of Terms of Reference

- M. MacKenzie reviewed the Terms of Reference with Committee members.
Review of Museum Feasibility Study

- Karin Ash, Manager of Cultural Services, spoke to the history of the Museum Feasibility Study and reviewed the short and long term goals.
- K. Ash reviewed the projects that have been completed to date and the upcoming renovation project for the Heritage Centre.
- M. MacKenzie reviewed the programming changes, revisions and successes since the implementation of the Study.

Heritage Services Update - Maggie MacKenzie

M. MacKenzie explained that at each meeting, she would provide an update on the operations in Heritage Services. The purpose was to enlighten discussion on successes and areas to improve.

Programs and General Operations

- M. MacKenzie reviewed 2018 and 2019 numbers with the Committee. In summary:
  - A notable increase in Camps, Birthday Parties, Teas and Group Bookings. The DDO Tours have contributed to the group bookings and improved marketing strategies have increased awareness.
  - General year round programs have seen a decrease although family, parent and me, preschool and adult crafting continue to be popular. Staff are focusing general programming efforts in this area and on education.
  - We are becoming more accessible to the public to include our on-line collection and outreach programming. This has resulted in an elevated level of interest from the community.
- Approvals for grants for summer students starting to come in. Last summer we had 11 students on grant programs. Grants cover fifty to one hundred percent of funding for staffing of summer camp, Heritage Centre and Artifact Storage operations.
- Education Programs will be launched on-line very soon with full curriculum connections and objectives for teachers to review. Teacher and group leaders will be able to request their bookings on-line for more convenience.
Exhibits and Collection

- Slovak Exhibit - Closes May 18
- A Lifetime Day by Day - Closes August 2019
- Millennium in a Box - Closes August 2019
- Coming Up Rises - Opening May 2019
- Richmond Hill Treasures - Discovery Your Past - Opening in September
- Collections Past Perfect Database - allows on-line viewing of the collections

Upcoming Events

- York Region District School Board Heritage Fair - May 4 in Aurora - we will run a workshop for grades 7 to 11
- Doors Open - Saturday, May 11 - 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Mom and Me for Tea - May 11
- Mystery Tea - June 8

Nominations

Jim Vollmershausen - Chair
Samir Dossal - Vice-Chair
Nancy Spinks - Recording Secretary

Dates of Next Meeting

Wednesday June 12, 2019 7:00p.m.

Adjournment

Moved by: Nancy Spinks
That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.