



# RHDDO Staff Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

14 December 2021, 2-3:30 pm

<b>Attendees</b>	Paolo Masaro (Chair), Bob Levesque (Co-Chair), Nick Kalyvas, Kathleen Graver, Patrick Lee, Anthony Ierullo, Mike McCallum, Alexander Mandatori, Ann Marie Farrugia, Karin Ash, Lynn Chan
<b>Regrets</b>	Jeff Stewart, David Dexter, Donald Hearn
<b>Minute Taker</b>	Rahima Munshi
<b>Item#</b>	<b>Minutes &amp; Action Items</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction by Paolo</li> <li><a href="#">YouTube Video</a> by Acting Mayor Joe DiPaola</li> </ul>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Steering Committee Composition</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Current Projects and Activities Update by Mike McCallum</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.5 kms of Temp trails substantially completed and usable by residents</li> <li>Surfacing is granular with no winter maintenance. Way finding signs are in place</li> <li>Assignment 2 Design stage is on-going and is at initiation stage at the moment</li> <li>Signage up at each entrance and intersections</li> <li>Signage planned based on Traffic and Parking Study and Parks Master plan in partnership with the Transportation team for the two entrances to the North and one on the east connecting to the new residential development</li> <li>Working on perimeter fencing especially along the CN rail</li> <li> <b>Ecological Restoration update by Anne Marie Farrugia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funded by 1.6 million dollars received as compensation funds for the woodlands that were removed from the area</li> <li>8.4 hectares of woodland within the park</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- 3.5 hectares of wildlife corridor and woodland area were restored in 2017
- From 2017 to 2022 around 5000 trees and shrubs were planted in the area in partnership with Conservation Authority which is primarily complete
- There are on-going herbicide treatments to control invasive species until the plant material establishes. Some of the deer protection will be removed around some of the trees next year

***Phase 2 area- Shaded in Yellow on the Map***

- 2.5 hectares of new woodland being created and restoring 1.5 hectares of existing woodland
- 0.6 hectares of Hydrological improvements planned
- Removed dead and hazardous trees and invasive species in winter of 2021 within the phase 1 area. City and TRCA will be conducting herbicide treatments until 2024
- Added large enclosures for deer protection to new trees until fencing can be established

***Phase 3- Shaded pink on the Map***

- Restoration work will begin in 2022 in partnership with TRCA
- Creating 1.9 hectares of new woodland within the property including of 1.1 hectares of Savanah
- Implementation will begin in 2023 and done by 2027
- Meadow restoration is part of 2022 restoration plan

**• RHDDO Buildings Restoration update by Alexander Mandatori**

- All 3 phases of restoration has been completed on time and on budget
- Major scope of work included restoration of wood and metal windows and doors, repair and conservation of metal surfaces, replacement of metal roofing and flashing, masonry and concrete restoration, electrical system upgrades and implementation of new fire alarm system and devices
- Critical components of this scope of work were new foundation waterproofing system and Drainage system which was installed to ensure structure is preserved for many years to come
- City has broadcasted the completion of this project through many different channels, City's website and social media channels via articles done on connector and picked by other media and magazines, good news quotes from councilors and residents highlighting the good work being done on site

***Before and After***

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Photos of before and after transformation</li> <li>○ Administration building before and after photos</li> <li>○ Drone video played of site and building at the completion of the project</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Future Work</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Proceeding with replacement of original watermain supply line, design complete and circulated for review to the infrastructure group. December procurement date met. Work scheduled to start early next year targeting to complete prior to the ceremony</li> <li>○ Assess next priority repairs based on our 10 year outlook and strategizing next updates</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2021 Recreation &amp; Culture Programming update by Karin Ash</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ City is still delivering Astronomy programs through our program partners the DDO and RASTCO</li> <li>○ DDO back on site in person and the RASTCO continuing to provide virtual program and both are going well</li> <li>○ Maggie McKenzie from Heritage services is doing some historical tours. In spring doing some lectures from administrative building but resuming to full site tours in Spring</li> <li>○ Summer camp took place in 2021 and was full capacity. Looking to host camp again in 2022 and add a few more groups</li> <li>○ In-person and Virtual programming is continuing in fall and into winter for 2022 getting a good reach from local as well as non-local participants from all over Ontario</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
4.	<p><b>Master Plan / Early Priorities update by Bob Levesque</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Master Plan- Approved Sept 2016</b></li> <li>• <b>Phase 1- Early Priorities Year 1-8</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ List on slide lists early priorities plan</li> <li>○ Based on comments received at the last Steering Committee meeting, the timings for some of the projects were shuffled to encourage more of the passive recreational use of the facility as soon as possible. Establishing pedestrian path, playground, rail pass, picnic area and pavilions early on to get people in sooner</li> <li>○ Establish key access points early on and also looking at a study to look at the parking area to help guide the creation of observatory parking lot and refurbishing of Elvis Stoic Parking area</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Location of Operations Maintenance facility being reconsidered. Planning to take advantage of some of the servicing plan information to have it better located. Mike M has more details</li> </ul>
5.	<p><b>Capital Budget and Forecast</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Design and Construction Grouped into 7 assignments</b> <p><b><i>Construction of Assignment 2 starting next year</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>perimeter fencing, park entrance features and signage for main and nature trails</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Design of Assignment 3 starting next year</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site servicing, the main and nature trails and pedestrian rail overpass construction will start in 2023</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Assignment 4</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Washroom facility, Playground and water feature elements, great lawn elements</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Assignment 5</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>redesign of 16 Ave entry elements and Tying of regions reconstruction of 16<sup>th</sup> Ave</li> <li>Refurbishing of Elvis Stoic arena parking lot</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Assignment 6</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Covered Pavilions and observatory parking lot might be moved up based on the findings in the parking study until then might be a graveled area</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Assignment 7</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operations Maintenance Facility Design in 2027 and construction in 2028</li> </ul> <p>In 2022, Design for Observatory Lane, Pedestrian Overpass and Main and Nature Trails the budget request is for \$700,000 and for Construction next year for Perimeter fencing, park entrance features and signage of nature trails the budget request is for \$1.4M</p> </li> </ul>
6.	<p><b>Communications Update by Kathleen Graver</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Communications Approach</b> <p>Sustained communication throughout the year and will continue for the next few years in the form of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Key Messages</i></li> <li><i>Social Media</i></li> <li><i>Owned Media eg: e-newsletter, Newsletters, internal communications newsletters, waste calendar</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p><b><i>Media relations</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Continued to get on-going media coverage from number of media outlets</li> <li>○ Every inquiry and outreach has been coming through the communications team with the exception of the councilors to make sure the messaging is aligned to what we are looking for and directed to the concerned division and follows the approval workflow</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Web Presence</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ New photos and individual landing pages</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>2022 Priority: Plaque Unveiling Ceremony National Historic Site of Canada</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Parks Canada event planned for spring of next year</li> <li>○ Media event with speeches and Plaque unveiling on stage</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><i>City's role in Plaque ceremony</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It's a parks Canada event not a City event, City will support. June 4-9 is the preferable time but is at the discretion of Parks Canada Management. To be highlighted at the RHDDO Council meeting in Feb 2022</li> <li>○ Confirmed date will be advised closer to around 2 weeks before the event</li> <li>○ Area to be prepped and primed for the entire June month to accommodate and be prepared for a volatile date</li> </ul>
<p><b>7.</b></p>	<p><b>Radio Shack and Pump House</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Radio Shack</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Radio Shack is currently in a bad shape</li> <li>○ Built a fence around the Radio shack with a gate to help secure it</li> <li>○ Decision needs to be made to either demolish it and just signify it with a plaque or replicate the structure</li> <li>○ Bob stated this will be a recommendation that will be made to the Council Steering Committee.</li> <li>○ Heritage Value issue may come up during the council meeting. Paolo willing to support the recommendation provided there is no opposition</li> <li>○ Patrick recommended replicating not needed as it's a non-remarkable building except the equipment in it and recommended to place an art that resonates the contents in the building</li> <li>○ Patrick confirmed there is nothing inside the building currently</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Radio Shack is currently located at its original location, Paolo recommended to place the plaque in its original location</li> <li>○ Ann Marie recommended the decision to demolish to be sooner than later as the building is difficult to maintain in its current state, Paolo agreed and recommended demolition as soon as possible</li> <li>○ Karin highlighted that Radio shack is listed as a heritage attribute under the designation, this will require a heritage permit to demolish as per confirmation from Patrick</li> <li>• <b>Pump House</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Pump House doesn't have historical significance and is not a designated heritage attribute</li> <li>○ If there is opposition to demolishing it then Paolo would require a cost comparison on how much will it cost to build one of this and if we have to maintain this and move it safely how much will it cost. Maintenance cost to be rolled in too until when we plan to use it</li> <li>○ Bob concerned there is a risk in keeping the structure on site. Can pose a safety issue and costs the City to maintain the structure</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Next Steps</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Minutes for this meeting and Staff Report for Council Steering committee meeting will be circulated to the executive Committee members in Jan 2022</li> <li>○ RHDDO Project Council SC meeting scheduled for 15 Feb 2022</li> <li>○ Additional studies update/findings to be provided by Summer 2022</li> <li>○ Assignment 2 construction scheduled for Summer 2022 and 2023</li> <li>○ Assignment 3 Design Scheduled for Early 2022</li> </ul>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Open Discussion- Q&amp;A</b> Closing remarks by Paolo