



Heritage Richmond Hill

Minutes

HRH#06-24

Thursday, September 5, 2024, 3:00 p.m.

A Heritage Richmond Hill meeting of the Council of the City of Richmond Hill was held on Thursday, September 5, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. via videoconference.

Committee Members present via videoconference:

Councillor Cilevitz (Chair)
Barbara Di Mambro (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Davidson
Bob Berube
Anete Ivsina (Richmond Hill Public Library)
Natasha Khan
Barbara Maher-Erwin
Dianne McLeod
Agnes Parr (Richmond Hill Historical Society)
Joanne Schreiber

Regrets: Timothy Cheng
Nancy Spinks

Also in attendance:

Regional and Local Councillor Chan

Staff Members present via videoconference:

K. Chaudry, Manager, Heritage and Urban Design
A. Mandatori, Manager, Design and Construction
A. Tsang, Project Manager, Facility Infrastructure
P. Vega, Urban Design/Heritage Planner
R. Ban, Deputy City Clerk
K. Hurley, Council/Committee Coordinator
C. Connolly, Legislative Services Assistant

Chris Hall and Pietro Frenguelli, Partners, +VG Architects, were also in attendance at the invitation of the Committee.

1. Call to Order

Chair Cilevitz called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by: A. Parr

That the agenda be adopted as distributed by the Clerk with the following addition:

a) Delegation by Dr. Tuba Koktay, DDO Defenders, regarding the Heritage Permit for David Dunlap Observatory Building Repairs - City File D12-07228 - (refer to Item 6.1) - (Item 5.1).

Carried Unanimously

3. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest by members of the Committee under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.

4. Adoption of Previous Minutes

4.1 Minutes - Heritage Richmond Hill meeting HRH#05-24 held June 6, 2024

Moved by: D. McLeod

a) That the minutes of Heritage Richmond Hill meeting HRH#05-24 held June 6, 2024, be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

4.2 Extracts - Council Meeting C#16-24 held June 19, 2024

Moved by: B. Di Mambro

a) That the extracts from Council meeting C#16-24 held June 19, 2024 regarding the following staff reports be received:

- SRPBS.24.056 - Notice of Intention to Designate 27 Church Street North - City File D12-07139
- SRPBS.24.057 - Notice of Intention to Designate 9835 Leslie Street - City File D12-07248
- SRPBS.24.058 - Notice of Intention to Designate 9853 Leslie Street - City File D12-07250

- SRPBS.24.059 - Notice of Intention to Designate 13561 Leslie Street - City File D12-07294
- SRPBS.24.060 - Notice of Intention to Designate 165 Richmond Street - City File D12-07373
- SRPBS.24.061 - Notice of Intention to Designate 10039 Yonge Street - City File D12-07434
- SRPBS.24.062 - Notice of Intention to Designate 10094 and 10096 Yonge Street - City File D12-07443
- SRPBS.24.063 - Notice of Intention to Designate 10217 Yonge Street - City File D12-07465
- SRPBS.24.064 - Notice of Intention to Designate 10231 Yonge Street - City File D12-07468
- SRPBS.24.065 - Notice of Intention to Designate 10239 Yonge Street - City File D12-07469
- SRPBS.24.066 - Notice of Intention to Designate 12261 Yonge Street - City File D12-07496
- SRPBS.24.067 - Notice of Intention to Designate 12800 Yonge Street - City File D12-07513

Carried Unanimously

5. Delegation(s)

5.1 **Dr. Tuba Koktay, DDO Defenders, regarding the Heritage Permit for David Dunlap Observatory Building Repairs - City File D12-07228 - (refer to Item 6.1)**

Dr. Tuba Koktay, DDO Defenders, addressed Committee regarding the Heritage Permit for the David Dunlap Observatory Building Repairs. She advised that she had read the staff report and had a number of questions regarding the proposed repairs including why some panels were in worse shape than others and what measures were being proposed to avoid having those panels fail again; why high-density fibreboard was chosen instead of homasote which was more porous and could potentially be more beneficial; and what measures were being proposed to protect the Hilger Spectrograph, Newtonian Secondary Mirror, and contents of the Optics Cabinet on the Observing Floor of the Dome during the repairs. Dr. Koktay concluded her delegation by requesting that the DDO Defenders

be kept informed about the restoration work being done at the DDO as many of their members have firsthand knowledge of the property and its buildings and could provide valuable input.

6. Scheduled Business

6.1 SRPBS.24.087 - Heritage Permit for David Dunlap Observatory Building Repairs - City File D12-07228

- Presentation by Alexander Mandatori, Manager, Design and Construction; and Chris Hall and Pietro Frenguelli, Partners, +VG Architects

Alexander Mandatori, Manager, Design and Construction, provided introductory remarks regarding the Heritage Permit for the David Dunlap Observatory Building Repairs and advised that +VG Architects were in attendance to make a presentation to the Committee regarding the project.

Chris Hall, Partner, +VG Architects, provided an introduction of their consulting firm including their experience and history with the DDO site, and provided an overview of the project mandate in 2023 (Project Mandate I) which was a condition assessment of the agasote liner panels and the mandate for this year (Project Mandate II) which was to implement the recommendations that arose from the assessment.

Pietro Frenguelli, Partner, +VG Architects, reviewed in detail for the Committee what Project Mandate I entailed; highlighted the scope of work and summary of physical conditions that were included in the 2024 Building Condition Assessment (BCA) and Report, displaying multiple pictures of the building's agasote panels and failing paint; and advised of the recommendations that resulted from the BCA and Report.

C. Hall reviewed in detail what Project Mandate II entailed which included a review of mock-ups, painting of surfaces, Terrazzo flooring crack repairs, and telescope protection. He then provided an overview of the proposed implementation of the repairs, displaying multiple diagrams of the Dome, and noted that they were available to answer any questions that Committee members may have.

At the request of the Chair, C. Hall provided a response to each of the questions posed by the delegate answering why the panels had failed and the rationale for choosing the replacement high density fibreboard material, noting that ongoing preventative maintenance would be put in

place, and advised of the various measures and strategies to be taken to protect the interior components of the DDO throughout the repair project. Staff confirmed that they were satisfied with the proposed recommendations, measures and strategies as detailed by the consultants for the repair work to the DDO building, including protection of the various interior components.

General discussion ensued regarding when the repairs on the DDO building would start, how long it would take to complete, and what the estimated longevity would be for the repairs; the protection of the telescope while the repairs were being undertaken; whether work on the flooring would be done consecutively or separately from the other repair work; the criteria and process for the contractors selected to undertake the work at the DDO, understanding its value as a National Historical Site; and the preliminary schedule for the project to ensure the grant funding timelines were met.

Moved by: N. Khan

That Heritage Richmond Hill recommends to Council:

- a) That staff report SRPBS.24.087 regarding Heritage Permit for David Dunlap Observatory Building Repairs be received;
- b) That the heritage permit application to repair the interior of the David Dunlap Observatory building, as described in staff report SRPBS.24.087, be approved.

Carried Unanimously

7. **Adjournment**

Moved by: Councillor Davidson

That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.