

This meeting of the Heritage Toronto Board of Directors was held on December 16, 2020, over Zoom video call from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Richard Moorhouse (Chair) Peter Berton
 Fallon Butler Liza Chalaidopoulos
 Lori Davison Juliet French
 Martin Green Peter Ignazi
 Jeff Junke Louis Kan
 Sean Kheraj James Lane
 Claire Nelischer Aaron Sanderson
 Linda Strachan Leslie Thompson
 Karen Whaley Jay Pariseau

REGRETS: Councillor Mike Colle
 Councillor Paula Fletcher
 Peggy Hornell
 Sandy Kedey

ALSO PRESENT: Allison Bain, Executive Director
 Chris Bateman, Acting Manager, Plaques and Public Education
 Laura Carlson, Manager, Public Programs
 Lucy Di Pietro, Manager, Marketing and Communications
 Heather Kingdon, Operations Coordinator
 Candice McCavitt, Manager, Development
 Kristen McLaughlin, Plaques Coordinator
 Andrew Himel, Programming Committee

A. OPENING REMARKS, AGENDA AND MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Mr. Moorhouse called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

2. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

Richard Moorhouse made an Indigenous land acknowledgement to start the meeting.

3. Introductions and Opening Remarks by Chair and Executive Director

Mr. Moorhouse welcomed the board and staff, and thanked everyone for work accomplished in 2020. He introduced new Board Member Jay Pariseau who provided an overview of his experience and his interest in the work of the Board.

Ms. Bain introduced the new Manager of Public Programs Laura Carlson who spoke about her previous and continued work as a historian with Heritage Toronto.

Ms. Bain then introduced Heather Kingdon who spoke about her work in the heritage field and with Heritage Toronto.

4. Approval of Agenda

HT 20-12: APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Carried)

Moved by Mr. Ignazi, seconded by Mr. Kheraj, and approved unanimously.

5. Declarations of Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest

Mr. Moorhouse declared his conflict of interest with regard to the Agreement in Principle of the Arts and Letters Club Architectural Conservation Award. He noted that he would excuse himself from discussion of this item later in the meeting.

6. Approval of Minutes of Previous Board Meeting

HT 20-13: ADOPTION OF MINUTES of the meeting of the board of Heritage Toronto held October 14, 2020. (Carried)

Moved by Ms. Thompson, seconded by Ms. Chalaidopoulos, and approved unanimously.

B. CONSENT AGENDA

HT 20-14: APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA (Carried)

Moved by Mr. Kheraj, seconded by Mr. Lane, and approved unanimously.

C. REPORTS

1. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Moorhouse applauded the participation level from staff and Board as donors to the agency in 2020. Mr. Moorhouse then announced he would be stepping down as Chair and member of the Board in February 2020. He thanked everyone for their tremendous support over the years and noted the Executive Committee would be sending out information on the process to nominate and appoint a new Chair. He encouraged all Board Members to consider applying for the position.

Mr. Sanderson expressed gratitude towards Mr. Moorhouse for his leadership and service and thanked him on behalf of the Board. Throughout the remainder of the meeting, Board members who were providing verbal Committee reports, including Mr. Kan, Mr. Green, Mr. Berton and Ms. Chalaidopoulos, echoed this sentiment.

1.1 Strategic Planning Task Force

Mr. Green noted the Task Force has been meeting regularly to produce purpose and destination statements and strategic goals. The goal is to present this draft document to the Board by the first quarter of 2020.

2. 2020 REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

Ms. Bain thanked Mr. Moorhouse for his support during his time as Chair. The staff then presented a 2020 Year End report to the Board.

3. FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Mr. Kan presented the Financial Statements as of October 31, 2020. He noted that Heritage Toronto is currently projecting to post a small surplus by year end. Although approved by the Board, it has chosen to not access agency funds yet as those funds will be key to recovery in 2021.

Mr. Sanderson inquired about a note in the financial statements regarding a court challenge. Ms. Bain explained that the agency received funding to produce Canada 150 plaques for the 47 wards across the City. The project was frozen when the City was reduced to 25 wards which it is currently contesting in court. The agency will continue to accrue this revenue until a court decision has been announced and the plaques can be produced.

4. PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Mr. Berton noted that five Programming Committee Meetings were held in 2020. As the agency had to cancel all in-person programs this year, the Committee has focused on plaques in 2020. Mr. Berton displayed the new Taddle Creek Plaque that was produced, noting that it is the first double-plaque to be made by the agency.

5. DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Sanderson thanked all Board members for their donations in 2020. The committee is currently pursuing new avenues of growth and he noted an upcoming meeting with BMO to support a Black Heritage initiative.

6. MARKETING AND DIGITAL MEDIA COMMITTEE

Ms. Chalaidopoulos noted the Committee has been meeting regularly and has three main recommendations moving forward into 2021:

1. Continuing online tours
2. Hosting virtual events (in the webinar format, involving topical discussions and diverse voices)
3. Creating unique content for social media that increases engagement and takes advantage of the diverse format. She noted that this is what the committee will prioritize in 2021.

7. JURIES COMMITTEE

Mr. Moorhouse at this time stated that he would leave the meeting.

Ms. Whaley presented a proposal from the Arts and Letters Club for an annual award named in honour of Mr. Richard Moorhouse. With a five year commitment, this award would be presented each year at the Heritage Toronto Awards to a young professional in architectural conservation. Ms. Whaley noted this award would fit within Heritage Toronto's mandate and build on its success directly supporting young people. She responded to several questions from Board members and noted that the motion was an Agreement in Principle only as many operational details, to minimize an increased workload for the Juries Committee, will have to be addressed.

HT 20-15: APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE OF ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVATION AWARD (carried)

Moved by Ms. Strachan, seconded by Mr. Ignazi, and approved unanimously.

Mr. Moorhouse was welcomed back to the meeting.

D. OTHER BUSINESS

D1. 2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Board meetings are held at St. Lawrence Hall, 157 King Street East, 3rd floor, from 6 pm - 7:30 pm. For the duration of the pandemic, meetings will be held via electronic vote or via Zoom video call.

- Strategic Planning Session (time, date and location tbd)
- Wednesday, April 14th
- Wednesday, July 14th
- Wednesday, September 15th
- Wednesday, December 15th

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32pm