



**Town of Aurora
Heritage Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Date: Monday, April 14, 2025
Time: 7 p.m.
Location: Holland Room, Aurora Town Hall

Committee Members: Councillor Wendy Gaertner (Chair)
Cynthia Bettio
Linda Duringer
John Green, Aurora Historical Society Representative
Bob McRoberts, Honourary Member
Rocco Morsillo
Chris Polsinelli

Other Attendees: Councillor Ron Weese*
Adam Robb, Manager, Policy Planning and Heritage
Ishita Soneji, Deputy Town Clerk

*Attended electronically

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Committee acknowledged that the meeting took place on Anishinaabe lands, the traditional and treaty territory of the Chippewas of Georgina Island, recognizing the many other Nations whose presence here continues to this day, the special relationship the Chippewas have with the lands and waters of this territory, and that Aurora has shared responsibility for the stewardship of these lands and waters. It was noted that Aurora is part of the treaty lands of the Mississaugas and Chippewas, recognized through Treaty #13 and the Williams Treaties of 1923.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Cynthia Bettio

Seconded by Linda Duringer

That the revised agenda as circulated by Legislative Services be approved.

Carried

4. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50*.

5. Receipt of the Minutes

5.1 Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2025

Moved by John Green

Seconded by Cynthia Bettio

1. That the Heritage Advisory Committee meeting minutes of February 3, 2025, be received for information.

Carried

6. Delegations

6.1 Christopher Watts, The Aurora Heritage Authority; Re: Wooden Plaque Program

The Committee consented to allow additional time for the delegate's presentation.

Christopher Watts presented information on the Town's Wooden Plaque Program and offered suggestions for improvements to the Program.

Moved by Cynthia Bettio

Seconded by Linda Duringer

That the comments of the delegation be received for information.

Carried

7. Matters for Consideration

7.1 Memorandum from Manager, Policy Planning and Heritage; Re: Heritage Permit Application HPA-2025-03 – 10-12 Spruce Street

Staff provided an overview of the memorandum noting that the Heritage Impact Assessment determined the property is not of significant cultural heritage value and the design of the proposed new building is consistent within the neighbouring context. Emma Cohlmeier, Associate, ERA Architects Inc., on behalf of the applicant, presented an overview of the property background, Assessment findings, and proposed development.

The Committee expressed concern regarding the Assessment evaluation of the property respecting its historical or associative value and significance to the community, and suggested the property may meet the required criteria to not warrant demolition. Further areas of concern included the front yard setback; design of the proposed semi-detached dwelling and attached recessed garages; design not in keeping with the character of the area; building size; brick colour; loss of historical home; and potential loss of affordable housing. The Committee suggested to consider detached rear yard garages and access off Centre Street for one of the units. The Committee supported the option that, in the event of demolition, the owner be required to install an interpretive plaque to commemorate the dairy business history of the property.

Moved by Rocco Morsillo

Seconded by Chris Polsinelli

1. That the memorandum regarding Heritage Permit Application HPA-2025-03 - 10-12 Spruce Street be received; and
2. That the Heritage Advisory Committee comments regarding Heritage Permit Application HPA-2025-03 be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

Carried

8. Informational Items

None.

9. New Business

The Committee provided an update on the student co-op pilot project now in progress.

Staff provided an update on discussions with Ontario Heritage Trust (OHT) regarding the possible replacement of the Aurora Armoury provincial plaque and advised that OHT deemed there was not sufficient grounds for replacement.

Staff provided an update on the Petch House renovations noting the expected completion timeline of June/July 2025.

The Committee suggested participating in the Town's booth at the annual Aurora Chamber of Commerce Street Festival on June 1, 2025, in order to share information on the Town's Heritage programs and initiatives.

10. Adjournment

Moved by Cynthia Bettio

Seconded by Linda Durringer

That the meeting be adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Carried