

Minutes of a Town of Pictou Public Hearing meeting convened at the CN Station – Council Chambers on the above date. Mayor James Ryan presiding.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Melinda MacKenzie; Councillors Dan Currie, Nadine LeBlanc and Shawn McNamara

ALSO PRESENT: Kyle Slaunwhite, CAO
Michelle Davey, Heritage Advisory Committee
Nicole MacDonald, Deputy Clerk/Minute Recorder

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. NOTICE TO CONSIDER REGISTRATION IN THE MUNICIPAL REGISTRY OF HERITAGE PROPERTY – LAUREL HILL CEMETERY

The property is being proposed because of its wide selection of early tombstones of historical significance and many eminent Pictonians buried in the cemetery.

The property owner was notified. No objections were received from the property owner or the public.

Public Comments/Submissions:

- Written submission from Kurt Fitzner – the proposal is for municipal registration, so future amendments need only be made by Pictou Town Council, which is less arduous than amendments to provincial registered properties; taking this step protects the property in the event a future Council does not hold the same level of historical value for the property and/or the property owner cannot demolish or make major changes without public consultation (it was noted that these comments applied to the Market Square property as well).

There were no further comments from those present.

3. NOTICE TO CONSIDER REGISTRATION IN THE MUNICIPAL REGISTRY OF HERITAGE PROPERTY – MARKET SQUARE

The property is being proposed because of its longstanding significance as a public market for the community and a landscaped park space for meetings, ceremonial and recreational purposes. The suggested character or key defining elements are the Scottish pioneer’s monument (erected in 1923 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the ship *Hector*), the bandstand which replaced the octagonal market building, the Town flagpole, the four historical plaques mounted on field stones, and ten hand chiseled foundation stones.

Questions from Council that were answered by Michelle Davey:

- What does character or key defining elements mean with respect to protection of the property? The bandstand may not be a defining element as it has only been built in the last 50 years, rather the location and monument.
- What restrictions would there be to replace the bandstand if needed? The location and the plaques that remind the public of its significance are important; the bandstand is less significant as it is a newer feature.
- What restrictions would there be to replace the flagpole? It could be replaced so long as there was something to be used to commemorate significant events in the center of town (what it looks like is less significant).
- Why are the seating stones significant? Can changes or updates be made to these and other features in the Square? If a group wanted to continue with beautification of this space, what would the process be? Bring the matter to the Heritage Advisory Committee for recommendations and feedback that will be forwarded to Council; trying to remain conscious of the historical significance.
- Comment that protecting the area as a common space is what is important

The CAO spoke on behalf of the property owner (the Town of Pictou). There is support for the registration, with some revisions to the key defining elements – remove protection of the existing bandstand, flagpole and the ten hand chiseled foundation stones, but commit to keeping an octangular shaped structure and flagpole.

- What structure did the hand chiseled foundation stones come from and can they be protected? Possibly from the old Dawson School; plaques could conceivably be erected to explain the significance and then added as key defining elements.

There were no further comments.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED

James J. Ryan
Mayor

Kyle Slaunwhite
CAO