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Council Appointments to the Newmarket Historical Society Board Staff Report to Council

Report Number: 2019-53

Department(s): Legislative Services

Author(s): Andrew Walkom, Legislative Coordinator

Meeting Date: May 21, 2019

Recommendations

1. That the report entitled Council Appointments to the Newmarket Historical Society Board dated May 21, 2019 be received; and,
2. That Council make no further appointment to the Newmarket Historical Society Board until the review of the Board structure is complete; and,
3. That staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update regarding appointments to the Board of the Newmarket Historical Society.

Background

For a number of years, the Heritage Newmarket Advisory Committee has appointed a member to represent the Committee on the Newmarket Historical Society Board. This member served as a full member of the Board.

The Newmarket Historical Society Board's by-laws set out the structure of its Board as follows:

“The Board shall consist of 12 directors, ten of whom shall be elected from among the membership, and two members being appointed by the Council of the Town of Newmarket from among its members.”

From past Council records, it appears that typically only one Councillor was appointed to the Board. The Board by-law does not require a representative from the Heritage Advisory Committee to be appointed to the Board.

Staff have reviewed Local Architectural Conservancy Advisory Committee (LACAC) and Heritage Committee minutes to determine the origin of the appointment of a Heritage Committee member to the Historical Society Board. During the early 2000s, a Heritage member also served on the Historical Society Board and provided updates to the Heritage Committee on meetings of the Board. During the Committee Structure Review in 2004, staff noted that there had been a request for closer collaboration between Heritage Newmarket, the Historical Society and the Elman W. Campbell Museum Board, due to the similar mandates of these groups. The following recommendation was included in the staff report and passed by Council at the May 10, 2004 meeting:

“That the Newmarket Historical Society, Heritage Newmarket and the Museum Board be advised that should they wish to undertake discussions regarding any opportunities for collaboration and coordination between the groups, the Town of Newmarket would offer to facilitate the process.”

At the June 30, 2004 meeting of Heritage Newmarket, a member was appointed as a representative to the Historical Society. This appears to be the first appointment by the Heritage Committee to the Historical Society Board.

Staff have not been able to locate a formal delegation of the Historical Society Board appointment to the Heritage Committee by Council. It appears that this appointment was an informal process between the Heritage Committee and Historical Society, and has been continued at the beginning of each new term of Council in the years following this initial appointment.

Discussion

At the December 17, 2018 Council meeting, Councillor Woodhouse was appointed as Council’s representative to the Newmarket Historical Society Board.

Staff have received a request from the Historical Society that Council leave the second position vacant to allow the Historical Society to complete the review of its Board structure.

Conclusion

Staff will continue to consult with the Newmarket Historical Society to determine if further action from Council is required.

Business Plan and Strategic Plan Linkages

This report relates to the Well-equipped and Managed link of the Town's Community vision – implementing policy and processes that reflect sound and accountable governance.

Consultation

Staff consulted with the President of the Newmarket Historical Society and the staff support person for the Heritage Advisory Committee.

Human Resource Considerations

None.

Budget Impact

None.

Attachments

None.

Approval

Kiran Saini

Deputy Town Clerk

Lisa Lyons

Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk

Contact

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