

**MINUTES**  
**City of Welland Heritage Advisory Committee**  
**Wednesday March 4, 2026 at 6 p.m.**  
**Room 108, Welland Civic Square**

Present: Mary Adelle Patterson, Chair; Connie McCutcheon, Vice Chair; Tom Higginbotham, Tia DeAgazio, Rose Dzugan, Nora Reid, Secretary/Treasurer, Researcher; Greg Lipinski, Staff Liaison

1. Call to Order:

Chair Mary Adelle Patterson called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

2. Recognition of Traditional Territories

Chair Mary Adelle Patterson read the Land Acknowledgement recognizing that we meet on the traditional territories of Indigenous peoples.

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None.

4. Approval of Minutes of Feb. 4, 2026

Moved by Rose Dzugan, seconded by Connie McCutcheon, that the Minutes of the meeting held Feb. 4, 2026, be approved. Carried.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

Projects Report

St. Michael the Archangel Plaque

Secretary reported that Father Petryk will take the request for a plaquing ceremony to the Parish Council.

Osage Orange trees

Dave Steven, Manager of Parks, Forests and Cemeteries reported to the Secretary that the sign will be installed as soon as the frost is out of the ground.

**Action: Parks Dept. will install this in the spring.**

Historic District Mapping

Researcher Nora Reid circulated maps delineating the boundaries of the proposed Historic Areas to be recognized. This was discussed. It was suggested that the downtown area be extended to Bugar Street on the east. Question was asked if Rex Hotel at Lincoln Street should be included in downtown. Researcher suggested this

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would be a different area as it was the former Crowland Township area. Researcher suggested that there could be a separate “Crowland” area.

**Action: Researcher Nora Reid will check with residents with regard to name of district “French Town”**

**Action: When weather changes, members and researcher will make another tour to check boundaries for each district.**

**Action: Tom Higginbotham will research old maps showing former extent of City of Welland and boundary with Crowland Township.**

*Cook's Mills War of 1812 Trail and Niagara Geopark:*

After speaking with Ian Lucas, N. Reid contacted Head of Parks Department Dave Steven for further information. Dave forwarded this request to Matt MacMillan, City of Welland GIS Supervisor who responded with information about elevation profile, route, stops, distance between signs etc.

Ian Lucas sent further detailed documents with regard to the technical requirements needed to link the Cook's Mills Trail to the Niagara Geopark. These were forwarded to the Committee. They appear to include technical specifications and documents for user recording and are very complex. N. Reid suggested that the scope of this is beyond the Committee's parameters and City itself would need to buy in. She reported that the Geopark has a proposal in to the Greenbelt Foundation to fund signage.

**Action: Secretary will forward Matt MacMillan's information to Ian Lucas to find out if it will be sufficient.**

**Action: Secretary will follow up with Dave Steven from Parks Dept.**

*Aqueduct signage*

Secretary N. Reid spoke with Parks Dept. head Dave Steven. It was decided that additional information from Terry Hughes linked from the new sign should be added to Committee website under “Designated Properties – Aqueduct”. The new sign at the Aqueduct will contain a link to this.

**Dave Steven will follow with creation of sign and will contact the Railroad Historical Society Niagara Division for information about cost and materials of their plaque on Thorold Road.**

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6. Other Business – New Business

Property Standards, Report Next Steps

Staff Liaison Greg Lipinski reported that he is waiting for comments from Bylaw and will report back.

Property Tax Rebate for Heritage Designated Properties

Staff Liaison Greg Lipinski expects his staff report to go to Council in March.

Bill 200, Extension of Deadline for Notice of Intension to Designate

This was done in late 2025 under the Homeowner Protection Act, Bill 200 and this Committee was not aware of the change. This is extended to Jan 1, 2027 to issue a notice of intention to designate before a property must be removed from the register. C. McCutcheon noted that during the previous provincial government each area of the province had a municipal heritage advisor who kept all the heritage advisory committees up to date on changes to legislation but that is no longer the case.

**Action: Researcher will look at properties previously researched but not designated that could possibly be revisited with owners.**

Website Updates

R. Dzugan reported that the members list on our website as part of City website is incorrect. N. Reid reported that she had requested that this be updated but it has not been done yet.

**Action: Greg Lipinski will follow up.**

Culture Crawl March 8<sup>th</sup> at Pelham Meridian Centre

Secretary reported that this is a showcase for all cultural and historical groups in the Niagara Region. Central Station Education Initiative will participate.

Treasurer's Report

Chair noted that operating funding from City for 2026 has not yet been deposited.

Moved by Tom Higginbotham, seconded by Connie McCutcheon to pay N. Reid (Heritage Research) \$236.25 for research from January 7<sup>th</sup> through March 4<sup>th</sup> Carried.

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Moved by Rose Dzugan, seconded by Tom Higginbotham to pay N. Reid \$68.40 for mileage and printing expenses from Sept. 3, 2025 to March 3, 2026. Carried.

Correspondence

Secretary circulated a list of correspondence received and sent between February 4<sup>th</sup> and March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026 in advance of the meeting. Committee asked whether we were still getting inquiries about court related cases. This is still happening and occurs because people “google” Welland Courthouse which takes them to the building’s list on our website as a heritage designated building and the link [info@wellandheritage.ca](mailto:info@wellandheritage.ca) Clerk’s Dept. is working on rectifying this.

R. Dzugan asked about adding the Welland Canal Parkway Trail to the Geopark website. N. Reid responded that all Welland Trails would be added.

10. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn by Connie McCutcheon, seconded by Rose Dzugan at 7:10 p.m. Carried.