



**TOWN OF
GEORGINA**

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA

SPECIAL COUNCIL MINUTES

VISIONING SESSION – POTENTIAL USES OF THE FORMER SUTTON PUBLIC SCHOOL

Friday, April 19, 2013
9:11 a.m.

Staff Present:

Robin McDougall, Director of Recreation and Culture
Steve Richardson, Director of Emergency Services/Fire Chief
Harold Lenters, Director of Planning and Building
Rebecca Mathewson, Director of Administrative Services and Treasurer
Dan Pisani, Director of Operations and Engineering
Velvet Ross, Planning Manager
Karyn Stone, Economic Development Officer
Phil Rose-Donahoe, Manager of Culture
Jordan Redshaw, Communications Coordinator
Andrew Fung, I.T. Administrator
Rod Larmer, Chief Building Official
Yvonne Aubichon, Town Clerk
Carolyn Lance, Council Services Coordinator

Others Present:

Helmut Kik
Daniele Zanotti and Colleagues, United Way York Region
John De Faveri, Georgina Trades Training Inc (GTTI)
Karen Dubeau, Vice President, Newmarket Chamber of Commerce
Dan Ruby, York Small Business Enterprise Centre
Peter Budreo, Southlake Community Futures Development Corporation
Linda Fisher, Resident and business owner
Catherine Campbell, Regional Services Branch, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport
Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration
Mary Margaret Thorburn, Hospice Georgina Chair
Heather Fullerton, Executive Director of Art Centre and Gallery
Others

1. MOMENT OF MEDITATION:

A moment of meditation was observed.

2. ROLL CALL:

The Clerk gave the roll call and the following Council Members were present:

Mayor Grossi	Councillor Craig
Councillor Davison	Councillor Hackenbrook
Councillor Szollosy (left at 11:45 a.m.)	

Regrets:

Regional Councillor Wheeler
Councillor Smockum

3. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

None.

4. OVERVIEW OF THE VISIONING SESSION:

4.1 Phil Rose-Donahoe, Facilitator

Mr. Rose-Donahoe, Manager of Culture, acted as facilitator and advised Council as follows:

- to discuss the future of the former Sutton Public School
- significant research and consultation undertaken by Town staff
- \$900,000 received from the Federal Government, Town needs to contribute twice that amount for necessary repairs and upgrades, all work needs to be completed by March of 2014
- vision to be refined to move forward

5. DEPUTATIONS:

5.1 Helmut Kik, Resident, regarding potential uses for the former school site.

Mr. Kik advised Council as follows:

- suggested using the former Sutton Public School facility as a satellite university
- to bring industry to the Town
- suggested a survey/petition be circulated to residents on this idea

6. INVITED PARTICIPANTS:

6.1 Daniele Zanotti and colleagues, United Way York Region, as a potential partner in the development of a Multi-Sector Service Centre.

6. INVITED PARTICIPANTS cont'd:

Mr. Zanotti advised Council as follows:

- expressed appreciation to Council for its leadership and for listening over the years
- United Way is more than willing to work with the Town on a local project.

Janice Chu, Director, Community Investment, United Way York Region, advised Council as follows:

- United Way builds healthy, strong, vibrant communities
- committed to working with communities to build strong social structures.

Christine Hill-Caballero, Community Investment Manager, advised Council as follows:

- Key principles from United Way perspective are important to think about.

6.2 John De Faveri, Georgina Trades Training Inc., as a potential partner in the development of a community hub.

John De Faveri, Director, Georgina Trades Training Inc. advised Council as follows:

- provided input respecting what the GTTI could contribute to the project
- GTTI is a not-for-profit organization, bringing opportunities to the community
- focus on giving people employability skills, post-secondary education
- founded seven years ago; success is based on partnerships. Two outcomes defined; social enterprise and social incubation
- Community Kitchen can be part of a mixed use hub, with long-term goal of banquet facility.
- has the ability to be part of the economic growth and development in the town.
- received funding from the Region of York to conduct feasibility study for a community Teaching Kitchen Facility. When study completed, will share funding to become a partner.
- combination teaching facility and greenhouse where can grow own produce.
- want to be part of building a healthy community, community garden, engagement of seniors, venue for public events, greenhouse, landscape programs

Recess: The Special Council Meeting recessed at 10:27a.m. and reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

6.3 Karen Dubeau, Vice President, Newmarket Chamber of Commerce; Chair, Digital York; Interim Chair, Shared Digital Infrastructure, regarding the opportunities and challenges of a business start-up or industry cluster model for the former school.

6. INVITED PARTICIPANTS cont'd:

Ms. Dubeau advised Council as follows:

- has knowledge regarding businesses and industry clusters
- concept of community based innovative centres is popular and they can transform communities and build stronger collaborations between sectors.

7. COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Peter Budreo, Executive Director of Southlake Community futures Development Corporation, advised that the Town will find some level of support from them for this project.

Carolyn Crate of Fahey & Crate inquired if the people and businesses who will be directly affected by the community hub concept such as youth, seniors and the food bank, have been consulted as to what they would like to see in this facility. She was advised that the Town held an open house meeting in 2011, asking members of the community for expressions of interested in this space. In addition, during the feasibility study, consultants surveyed a number of community organizations.

Mr. De Faveri stated that Stratford has nine individual food banks with a community food centre acting as the central clearing house.

Mr. Rose-Donahoe advised as follows:

- Town needs to be able to maintain the financial stability of the facility through a business model and through tenants who are solid and stable and will be able to pay their rent
- river should be redeveloped from High Street to Black River Road, rather than just the section behind the subject property
- temporary space/flex space/temporary desk to be paid for when needed by a user.
- different profit margins for each type of space.
- decision made to demolish north portion of building, reducing 45,000 square feet of the facility; retaining the 1951 section, corridor and 1992 section at the rear.

Councillor Szollosy left the meeting at this time (11:45 a.m.)

Staff was requested to prepare a draft resolution to submit to Council on a subsequent Council meeting for consideration.

Linda Fisher stated that she has operated a business on High Street for 17 years and has heard that the Board of Education was interested in buying the property back because the new school is too small. She inquired if Council could confirm this and she was advised that Council is unaware of this but would contact the School Board to determine if this is correct.

8. CONFIRMING BY-LAW:

Moved by Councillor Craig, Seconded by Councillor Davison

That the following by-law be given three readings:

By-law Number 2013-0057 (COU-2)

Being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council.

Carried.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Councillor Davison, Seconded by Councillor Hackenbrook

That the meeting adjourn at 11:55 a.m.

Carried.

Robert Grossi, Mayor

Yvonne Aubichon, Town Clerk