

Committee gets approval to preserve our history

By ANI FEDERIAN
Herald Staff

Their neighbors all have it, and now, so will Halton Hills.

The town will have a LACAC, spelled out, it's known as a Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee.

As of the new year, a LACAC will be set up to report to town council. The motion was put forward by Coun. Al Cook Monday night, and approved by the town's general committee.

The first duty of the new committee will be to draft its terms of reference. Because it is an advisory

body to town council, the committee's guidelines as well as its decisions all will have to be ratified by council.

That's something Edward Tooke and David Stone stressed Monday night. The two men are on the ad hoc steering committee that looked at establishing a LACAC in Halton Hills.

Monday night, they briefed councillors on what exactly such a committee can do for the town, and even more importantly, what it can't do.

Throughout their presentation, Mr. Tooke and Mr. Stone stressed that the committee can only make

recommendations to council, and that it's council which has the ultimate say.

Often made up of councillors, architects, historians and restoration contractors, the LACAC is involved in the conservation of heritage property in the town.

It can recommend properties be designated heritage properties, as can the homeowner or anyone else.

Under the Ontario Heritage Act, LACACs study property and prepare reports on why someplace should be designated historically or architecturally significant.

The committee communicates with the owner of that property and in some communities no heritage designation is given to the property if the owner doesn't want it.

The committee's decision comes to council and if there are no objections, council may go ahead with the designation. However, if there are objections, the matter goes to the Conservation Review Board.

That's an advisory body that reviews each case individually, discussing it with the owner and the designating body. The Review Board's decision goes to town council and it's town council that makes the final decision.

If the decision is to proceed with the designation, council passes a designating bylaw and the owner, the public and the Ontario Heritage Foundation are notified. As well, the designation is registered on title with the property, a designation that's carried as the property changes hands.

If a subsequent owner wants to remove the historical designation, he can apply to the town council and the LACAC will look into it. "At all times, the power resides with council and not the LACAC," Mr. Stone said.

Many properties that have been designated historically significant have applied for and received provincial monies for restoration work.

Coun. Pam Sheldon noted Acton's Town Hall was one such building that faced demolition but was deemed historically significant by Acton residents and saved.

Mr. Stone said the committee won't take up staff time, and that the work will be done by the volunteer committee members.

The committee is looking for a \$1,000 budget in 1987 and anticipates designating two buildings in town. The LACAC budget will be considered during budget negotiations.

Coun. Betty Fisher said it gives local residents tremendous pride and a connection with their heritage when a building is designated a heritage building.

Mr. Tooke noted it can also help bring tourism into the area, making outsiders more interested in visiting the town to see designated properties.

IN THE HILLS

Progressive walk

Many local residents will be among more than 1,500 attending a Circuit Assembly in Norval, Oct. 25 and 26. The announcement was made by Jehovah's Witnesses Circuit overseer Reino Keski, and will be held at their Assembly Hall on Highway 7, just west of Mississauga road.

Theme for the two day gathering will be "Progressively Walk in Jehovah's Ways". For more information call 821-1201.

Pumpkin carving

The great pumpkin carving contest is open for youngsters Oct. 26 at Mountsberg Wildlife Centre near Campbellville.

Come and show off your carving skills and you might win a prize. The event begins at 12 noon and ends at 2 p.m. Judging is at 2:30 p.m.

Admission to Mountsberg is \$4.50 per car. For more information call 878-4131 (weekdays).

Cancer meeting

The Georgetown chapter of the Canadian Cancer Society is holding its annual general meeting Oct. 28 at St. George's Anglican Church.

The meeting begins at 8 p.m. Everyone is welcome and refreshments will be served. For more information call 877-1124.

Hay fire

A hay fire at Lot 24 Concession 4 caused an estimated \$300 damage Oct. 14 at 1:44 p.m. The cause of the fire is undetermined. About 300 bundles of hay in a field burned.

Chimney blaze

A chimney needing to be cleaned caused a fire Friday at 9:51 p.m., an official from the fire department said. There was no damage caused by the Lot 10 Concession 8 fire.

Euchre party

Do you like card games? How about euchre? The Georgetown Optimists are holding a euchre party Friday at 7:30 p.m. and you're all invited. They'll have prizes and a buffet. The party's being held at the Georgetown Optimists Hall on Highway 7. Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$2 for seniors. All are welcome.

Norval euchre

NORVAL—There will be euchre at the Norval Community Centre sponsored by the Norval Women's Institute Friday Oct. 24 beginning at 8 p.m. There are a number of prizes plus refreshments. Admission is \$2.

Tractor signs

"Tractor-drawn vehicles using this road" may be posted on Halton's roads if the Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee agrees.

Halton Hills Coun. Pam Sheldon raised the need for some type of warning sign for motorists using Regional roads also travelled upon by slow-moving farm vehicles.

Peel has put up such road signs in regard to its farming community.

Halton is considering doing so on Regional Roads where the roadway has poor vertical or horizontal alignment, road shoulders are less than two metres wide or non-existent, utility poles or trees are close to the pavement, the road is only two lanes, and the farm vehi-

cle signs don't jeopardize the effectiveness of other traffic signs.

The Region's Public Works Director Bob Moore estimates the signs will cost up to \$200 each to manufacture and install. The Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee is being asked to comment on this proposal.

Road changes

There's another project on the horizon for the town. That's numbering rural streets in order to make it easier for fire, ambulance and police staff to get there in an emergency.

Town administrator clerk Joseph Simon mentioned the project at last week's general committee meeting. He said it's something that's been done in Caledon to help emergency personnel identify property in the rural areas.

Last one in

There are about 150 communities in Ontario that have formed LACACs and Halton Hills is the only municipality in Halton and Peel Regions yet to establish such a committee.

LACACs can make an inventory of heritage properties within the municipality; evaluate the historical and architectural significance of these properties; prepare designation reports and recommend to council those properties deemed suitable for designation; hold walking tours and plaquing programs.

Through designation, council recognizes significant heritage properties and tries to protect them from destructive alteration or demolition.

Once a building is designated, an owner must have the permission of council to alter or demolish any of those features for which the property has been designated.

Owners want homes designated historic

By ANI FEDERIAN
Herald Staff

The owners of several local historically significant properties have come forward, eager to have their property designated historically significant by the town's Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee.

Douglas Brock of Park Street is the owner of the former Apple Products property in Glen Williams.

"I am keenly aware of the historical significance of two of the buildings on that site, and am anxious to see them preserved," Mr. Brock wrote to the ad hoc LACAC steering committee.

One is a 3 1/2 storey wooden mill dating from about 1860 and the other 2 1/2 storey building dating from the 1890s.

"However, historical significance does not just come from age. Architecturally, the buildings are unique to their era and their use," Mr. Brock says. "Culturally, they are of major significance to the community of Glen Williams because the majority of the families who lived in the village between 1860 and 1960 probably had at least one member employed there."

The property owner says he intends to have these buildings designated significant by the town's new LACAC.

Colleen Howard of Halton Hills Kinder School is also interested in having her Main Street South, Georgetown, property designated a historical site. The building used to house the town's Baptist congregation and most recently, the Missionary Alliance Church.

Kim and Val Kirton live in the Blue Mountain Schoolhouse because of its "old world charm" and they want to preserve as much of it as possible.

"However, in some cases restoration is more costly and troublesome than simply starting from scratch," Mrs. Kirton writes council. "If by becoming a designated building we can secure the financial assistance to preserve these unique features, we would ask that it be considered."

Rick and Moya Johnson live at 39 Charles St. in Georgetown and they want their home to be considered by the LACAC for historical designation.

"We are very supportive of any organization that will protect and preserve the heritage of the historic homes of Halton Hills. We fully support the formation of a LACAC committee for Halton Hills," they wrote.

Next door, at 38 Charles St., Ann Ten Cote and Kevin Bulivant also own a heritage property and want it designated through the LACAC.

Two year sentence for bank robber

After being found guilty of two counts of threatening violence and robbing two Georgetown banks, a man with no fixed address received two years in jail.

Greg Frank Johnston was sentenced Friday in Milton District Court. The Scottabank at Mountainview Road and Guelph Street was robbed Feb. 20, 1986, and the Main Street Canada Trust was robbed March 21, 1986.

In addition to the two years less a day sentence Mr. Johnston received, Judge Carnwath imposed two years probation. Mr. Johnston was recommended as a candidate for a drug abuse program, and he was prohibited from possessing firearms for five years.

In August Mr. Johnston was found guilty in a Guelph court room of robbing the Royal Bank in Erin. He has 17 months remaining on his sentence for that robbery. That sentence will be served concurrent with the two years he received for the Georgetown robberies, said Crown Prosecutor Paul Stunt.

The three banks were robbed in a similar way. "He claimed he had a gun but no one ever saw one," Mr. Stunt said.

The robber gave a note to the teller stating he had a gun and demanded money. The robber fled on foot. No one was injured in the robberies.

About \$1,000 was taken from each Georgetown bank, police said.

90 days for youth after rifle incident

A Georgetown man received 90 days in jail for a Sept. 5, 1985 incident where the Halton Tactical and Rescue Unit was called.

David Michael Cillis was charged with possession of a weapon and pointing a firearm. He was sentenced in Milton District Court Friday.

On Sept. 5, 1985, David Cillis, then 19 years old, was in possession of a gun at a home on Sideroad 15. The home was surrounded by the special unit of the Halton Regional Police. The owner of the home helped convince Mr. Cillis to surrender, police said at the time.

Mr. Cillis had a 300 Lea Enfield rifle with telescopic sights and a bayonet. He was also wearing an army-type helmet, police said.

The incident began with a domestic dispute at Mr. Cillis' Delrex Boulevard home. He left that

home carrying a rifle which he fired into the air outside the house, police said.

He ran through Cedarvale Park where he pointed the weapon at someone, police said. After running through the woods he stopped at the home on Sideroad 15. He surrendered to police by telephone, police said.

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