



REPORT

REPORT TO: Mayor R. Bonnette and Members of Council

REPORT FROM: Dennis Y. Perlin, CAO

DATE: June 9, 2010

REPORT NO.: ADMIN 2010-0031

RE: Further Deferral of Recommendation GC-2009-0316 respecting Report CS-2009-0068- Designation of Fallbrook Farm (including McClure Log Cabin, McClure Mill Site and Silver Creek Bridge) under Section IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, 14513 27 Side Road, Con 9, East Half Lot 28; File No.: R01 FA

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report ADMIN 2010-0031 re Further Deferral of Recommendation GC-2009-0316 respecting Report CS-2009-0068-Designation of Fallbrook Farm (including McClure Log Cabin, McClure Mill Site and Silver Creek Bridge) under Section IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, 14513 27 Side Road, Con 9, East Half Lot 28; File No.: R01 FA be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council further defer Recommendation No. GC-2009-0316 to the first Council meeting in September, 2010 to permit the "Friends of Fallbrook" under their new name "North Halton Celtic Historical Society" to more fully develop and seek support for their action plan as set out in the memo from Kate Murray of the North Halton Celtic Historical Society to the Town of Halton Hills CAO, dated June 6, 2010 attached as Appendix A to Report ADMIN 2010-0031.

BACKGROUND:

Town Council, sitting in General Committee on December 7, 2009 dealt with Report No. CS-2009-0068 dated August 31, 2009 regarding the designation of Fallbrook Farm and General Committee at that time passed Recommendation No. GC-2009-0316 which was as follows:

Recommendation No. GC-2009-0316

THAT Report No. CS-2009-0068 dated August 31, 2009, regarding the designation of Fallbrook Farm (including McClure Log Cabin, McClure Mill Site and Silver Creek Bridge) located at the property municipally known as 14513 27 Side Road, Con 9, East Half Lot 28, be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council proceed with the designation of Fallbrook Farm (including McClure Log Cabin, McClure Mill Site and Silver Creek Bridge) under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act;

AND FURTHER THAT staff proceed with the notification requirements as set out in the Ontario Heritage Act;

AND FURTHER THAT staff bring forward a by-law to designate Fallbrook Farm (including McClure Log Cabin, McClure Mill Site and Silver Creek Bridge) located at the property municipally known as 14513 27 Side Road, Con 9, East Half Lot 28.

CARRIED

Recommendation No. GC-2009-0316 was dealt with by Town Council at its meeting on January 25th and deferred to the February 22nd Town Council meeting at which time Town Council passed Resolution No. 2010-0042 as follows:

Resolution No. 2010-0042

Moved by: Councillor J. Fogal

Seconded by: Councillor J. Hurst

WHEREAS Halton Hills Council at their meeting of January 25th, 2010, deferred Recommendation No. GC-2009-0316 to the February 22nd, 2010 Town of Halton Hills Council meeting;

AND WHEREAS there continues to be ongoing discussions between Credit Valley Conservation, Friends of Fallbrook, the NEC, the Town and others in finding an alternate approach to preserving the Fallbrook Farm House;

AND WHEREAS in order to provide Council with all the options available and to continue discussions more time is required;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council recommends that Recommendation No. GC-2009-0316 be deferred to no later than the June 14th, 2010 Council meeting;

AND THAT Staff report back at the June 14th, 2010 meeting or an earlier meeting if appropriate, on the options available to allow preservation of the Fallbrook Farm House.

CARRIED

COMMENTS:

This Report is in response to the Direction to staff in the above noted Resolution No. 2010-00452 to report back at the June 14th, 2010 Council meeting.

Staff are not yet ready to present a report that has a plan or options to allow for the preservation of the Fallbrook Farmhouse and so this report requests a further deferral of the General Committee Recommendation GC-2009-0316 for designation to the first meeting of Town Council in September.

The basis for this further deferral request is the June 6th Memo received by the Town's Chief Administrative Officer from Kate Murray of the "North Halton Celtic Historical Society" setting out what has happened since Council's consideration of this matter last February. The memorandum is attached as Appendix A to this report.

You will note from Ms. Murray's Memorandum that the "Friends of Fallbrook" have regrouped, rethought the task at hand, and changed their name to the "North Halton Celtic Historical Society" and have developed a work plan which once fully implemented would see the original cabin on the Fallbrook Farm property restored, the later additions of the home renovated and rebuilt, making use if at all possible of environmental upgrades and with the intention of renting out the home to a tenant that would allow access to the cabin at designated times and act as a general curator/caretaker of the site.

Ms. Murray sets out in the Memorandum what the group has been doing and what work still needs to be done before it is ready to present an appropriate "Business Case" and "Expanded Business Plan" to Council to enable Council to have the confidence to proceed with the adoption of the designation recommendation from General Committee.

Staff supports the request of the North Halton Celtic Historical Society to have more time to work on their action plan. To that end the recommendation has been formulated to defer this matter to the first Council meeting in September.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

This Report relates to a proposed designation of a historical property in Halton Hills which would address the Town's strategic plan objectives related to history.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no direct financial impact on the Town.

COMMUNICATIONS IMPACT:

The North Halton Celtic Historical Society, the Credit Valley Conservation and other interested parties would be informed of the further deferral if granted by Town Council.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

There is no environmental impact arising out of this particular report.

CONSULTATION:

This report has been prepared in consultation with Kate Murray of the North Halton Celtic Historical Society.

CONCLUSION:

This Report deals with the deferred recommendation from General Committee to designate the Fallbrook Farm which was to be back in front of Council on June 14th with “options available to allow preservation of the Fallbrook Farmhouse”. The “Friends of Fallbrook” have reorganized themselves into the North Halton Celtic Historical Society and have developed an action plan which is attached to this Report. On that basis a further deferral of the General Committee Designation recommendation is being made to allow more time for the North Halton Celtic Historical Society to advance their action plan and present a viable business case to Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Administrative Officer

MEMO

TO: Mr. Dennis Perlin
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Halton Hills

FROM: Kate Murray
North Halton Celtic Historical Society

DATE: June 6, 2010

RE: Historical Designation of Fallbrook Site

BRIEF HISTORY:

Efforts to preserve the site at Fallbrook have been on-going for several years with only limited success. Historical designation of the site by the group 'Friends of Fallbrook' was requested because the building and surrounding area are viewed as worthy of preservation and because it is recognized as one of the last, (if not the last), local indications of what Scottish and other settlers faced when they arrived in this landscape. The Friends of Fallbrook chose to regroup and rethink the task and as a result have changed their name, to better reflect the nature of their endeavour, and have taken concrete steps to incorporate, establish a fund-raising program and develop a means to ensure long-lasting financial support for this building and site. The intent is that the North Halton Celtic Historical Society will fully restore the original cabin of the property, renovate and rebuild where appropriate the later additions of the home, making use of all possible environmental upgrades. When it is completed, the intention is to rent out the home, with the condition that the tenant allow access to the cabin at designated times and act as a general curator/caretaker of the site.

UPDATE:

There was a meeting on April 13, 2010 at Deveraux House with Councillors Robinson and Fogal, representatives from the Town of Halton Hills, Credit Valley Conversation and the Niagara Escarpment Commission, and Ann Lawlor from Deveraux House, and several community members of the North Halton Celtic Historical Society. There was a generally positive response to the concept of a newly formed group to preserve the historical character of the Fallbrook site.

Since that time, members of the North Halton Celtic Historical Society (NHCVS) have met as a new group with new members, communicated with the Ontario Historical Society for designation as a non-profit corporation under their umbrella, drafted a constitution, elected a full slate of board of directors, opened a bank account, issued a call for additional new members, obtained site surveys from the CVC and held a productive site visit. Input from the Ontario Heritage Trust has been requested in regards to their further involvement with the property.

WHAT'S ON-GOING:

Membership continues to expand via email and local word-of-mouth.

A display board, with graphics, historical and current pictures etc., is being created to expand the awareness of the site and the purpose of the NHCVS. The display will be available at weekly local community events in both Acton and Georgetown.

Communication with CVC re: site plans, building and site access.

The Scottish Studies at The University of Guelph will continue to give guidance and support, including financial support and assistance with grant application.

Development of technical plans for the site's and building restoration, with input from the architectural historian, Mr. Tom Murison, is underway. Once the plans are created, then an accurate knowledge of cost to implement the plans will be known.

Direction and support from the Ontario Heritage Society re: incorporation continues. A date has been set for September, 2010 for their own board approval.

Communication has been established with the Ontario Heritage Trust re: acting as a transfer agency for the property.

PRELIMINARY ACTION STILL REQUIRED:

Confirmation from Ontario Heritage Trust

Board Approval from the Credit Valley Conversation

Planning meeting with representatives of the CVC, NEC, Town of Halton Hills and Region to ensure all planning regulations are known

Business Case to be fully realized for designation as a historical site

Expanded Business Plan, including detailed fundraising plan, as well as all known financial requirements to be fully developed, once expenses of restoration, rebuilding and on-going maintenance are estimated

Designation of the original cabin by Council