

SAVE CENTURY MANOR
Hamilton Spectator Auditorium
Monday, December 8th, 2014, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

CENTURY MANOR IS WORTH SAVING

Chairperson – Pat Saunders

Pat Saunders welcomed all attendees, explained the reason for the meeting

- Special Welcome to former MPP Judy Marsales, Ward 1 Councillor Aidan Johnson, Spectator reporters Paul Wilson and Daniel Nolan

Pat then opened the meeting to all for suggestions/ideas on how to save Century Manor and asked Diane Dent to take notes of the meeting.

Following all the introductions Pat was asked to provide a brief historical background of Century Manor

- Century Manor originally named East House, 2nd of three mid-Victorian architecture built on the grounds of the Asylum for the Insane in 1884
- Kivas Tully Architect
- Designated under the Ontario Heritage Act by the City of Hamilton, July 1997
- 82 acres of original 500 acres remaining – 59 acres leased by St. Joseph's Hospital
- 23 acres remaining includes Century Manor, Beckfield Building, Provincial Labs, Power House, Trades Buildings and Ceramic Workshop
- One of the most important properties on the Hamilton Mountain
- Situated on the escarpment – contact Niagara Escarpment Commission
- Owner Provincial Government – contact: Infrastructure Ontario (IO) now within the Ministry of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure - formerly Ontario Realty Corporation
- From 1972 - 1992 Century Manor housed the Forensic Programme
- 1992-1995 – Day Hospital for patients living in the community – care transferred to community programmes building closed considered surplus by Administration H.P.H.
- Heritage significance - Century Manor (formerly East House) Hamilton Psychiatric Hospital – MBS Cultural Heritage Inventory: Inventory Form for Buildings and Structures January 2004 Report prepared by Chapple Heritage Services (Nina Chapple)
- Contact Alissa Golden, Planning Dept., City Hall to obtain a copy of that report.
- Report confirms the value of this building also confirmed by Greg Sather, Architect in the 1990's as part of the designation process
- Copy of a letter from MPP Andrea Horwath, leader of the NDP written to Ministers, Coteau and Duguid chiding the Liberal government for their neglect of the property
- MPP Ted McMeekin did not respond to invitation to attend – reported that Ted apparently not supportive and not helpful in ensuring members of the CMTF and interested buyers Clement Chan, President/Owner of Columbia International College and Steve Kulakowsky, Urban Core access to Century Manor

- Letter from Ontario Heritage Trust to Mayor R. Bratina on file
- Copy of email from Infrastructure Ontario (IO) rejecting request to tour Century Manor because the building is unsafe

Suggested Uses:

- Steve Kulakowsky, Core Urban, confirmed he was denied a tour of Century Manor by Infrastructure Ontario. Steve also confirmed his commitment to work with the Century Manor Task Force and confirmed his interest in developing the property
- Paul Wilson regretted loss of Grave Hall, a showpiece of the 1930's – a gem designed by an out of province architect. He also asked if Infrastructure Ontario (IO) had an interest to do anything with the property
- Steve Kulakowsky, Core Urban suggested re-purposing Century Manor for student housing at Mohawk College – which would fill a current need
- Robert Nielson mounted a display and spoke about the Lawn in Lincoln County as an example of adaptive re-use of a psychiatric hospital. In the past the Lawn was an insane asylum, now a wonderful conference centre/museum/restaurant and concert hall.
- Suggestion of a development incorporating condominium or student housing with a museum related to psychiatric treatment in the 1880's to the present day. 1st floor museum and historical group's rental meeting space, 2nd floor current treatment programmes, 3rd floor offices focusing on research
- Possible Centre for treatment of Eating Disorders
- John Kajaste reported on the adaptive-reuse of a 1930's psychiatric hospital in Elgin County refurbished for lawyers and judges. John also mentioned adaptive-reuse of a building in St. Thomas, Ontario about the same size as Century Manor -2014 – local MP has his office in the building, 2nd floor gallery and Rail Road station as it would have been when waiting for a train.
- A Ronald McDonald's home for parents, children and families
- Denise Doyle, YWCA proposed a Women's Shelter
- Frank Bernt suggested a link with veterans proposing that Century Manor would be an ideal place for the treatment of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and that the building could include the RHLI Museum currently housed in the Armory on James St. N.
- Joe suggested linking with the Bruce Trail Association because the Trail runs below the escarpment passing Century Manor
- Robin McKee informed those present the Plaquing Sub-Committee of the Hamilton Historical Board has received approval to install a designation plaque at the corner of West 5th and Fennell to inform citizens that Century Manor was a designed building
- Robin also used the terminology **Present, Past and Future** to describe the different perspectives for the preservation of Century Manor

A letter campaign was suggested – since Century Manor is owned by the Province of Ontario with management under the control of Infrastructure should be drafted and sent to:

- Minister Brad Duguid, Minister of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure, Minister Michael Coteau, Minister Tourism, Culture and Sport with cc's to Premier Kathleen Wynne, MPP Ted McMeekin, MPP Andrea Horwath, Ontario Heritage Trust (Thomas Symons, Board Chair and Sean Fraser, Director Heritage Programs and Operations), Mayor Fred Eisenberger, Councillor Terry Whitehead – in the letter include Provincial significance. Consult with Sean Fraser, OHT for criteria for a provincial easement and Cultural Landscape, Infrastructure Ontario
- Recruit the most stakeholders possible
- the establishment of Century Manor Task Force 2 was suggested and approved

TO DO

1. Letter campaign to the above list – letters as emails or snail mail – from all present at the Spectator meeting and everyone interested in Century Manor
2. Letter to Infrastructure Ontario informing them that there are a large number of Hamiltonians who have an interest in the preservation, adaptive-reuse of the property Ask for their proposed plans for the entire property, how the building became unsafe when a Property Management Company was paid to look after the building, why Century Manor not properly secured/protected from inclement weather, how often do Inspectors visit Century Manor interior and exterior, what repairs has IO carried out to ensure property is secure from vandals and the weather, what is the total cost of security since the building was vacated in 1995.
3. Operationalize Century Manor Task Force 2

Those present who indicated an interest in being a member of Century Manor Task Force 2.

1. Pat Saunders
2. Diane Dent
3. Robin McKee
4. Helen Kirkpatrick
5. Madeleine Mant
6. Matt Collella
7. William Summer
8. Gillian Hunt
9. Christine Lei
10. Natassia Lei
11. John Kajaste
12. Steve Kulakowsky
13. Frank Bernt
14. Christina Begley
15. Joe Mielko

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Diane Dent

