

Heritage Week Sat Feb 18 & Sun Feb 19 2023 @ The Oshawa Markets Final Report

Heritage Oshawa Heritage Week Working Group: Chair Robert T. Bell, Members Diane Stephen, John O'Boyle, & Patty Davis, Staff coordinator Harrison Whilsmith

I. Location: The Oshawa Flea Market - we were assigned booth C 503 on the day. The Oshawa Market was excellent to deal with & donated the space for the weekend

II. Times & equipment etc:

A. Furniture: We brought 2 eight foot folding tables & 5 chairs.

B. Setup: We arrived at 8:30am Saturday & setup.

C. Open for Public: Sat & Sun 10 to 6

D. Food & Fluids: We bought our own from the excellent food court.

E. Takedown & close : Left things overnight Sat at the market & took everything when we left.

III. Display Items included:

A. 2023 Inventory - Harrison colour printed the 2023 Inventory

B. Some recently designated properties - photos

- Airport Heritage Conservation District cover of report + photo of designation ceremony

- a commercial property - Biltmore Theater cover of report & photo

C. 2023 Register - Harrison colour printed the 2023 Register

D. General history: The fact Pedlar People was on the site of the market & has plaque in Memorial Park which is where it was before moving to the market location was highlighted. We brought Pedlar relics, info, photos, mementos etc.

- Malleable Iron was in area - we brought info photo etc - Metrolinks owns it

- Phillips Glass was in area - we brought info photo etc - proposed redevelopment - demolition happening

- St George & St John Ukrainian Churches both in area - heritage buildings - we brought photo etc for each

E. Banner Signage & etc- Heritage Oshawa Banner, & Pens were given away

- Diane brought items from Harrison, & things she had: city of Oshawa lapel pins, Province of Ontario lapel pins, small Canadian Flag lapel pins and paper Canadian and Ontario flags.

- Brochures on Heritage Oshawa - Diane brought them but we discovered they were out of date so they were not used

- Banner - was a great tool for attracting attention

- Table covering - we brought them

- We also brought some other display items about places in Oshawa such as the Tank Museum & their events as well as information about Windfields Farm and the Ontario Heritage Designated Northern Dancer Cemetery.

- Oshawa Historical Society - Museum - we were unable to bring info from them

- Items from Parking Garage - Diane arranged an investigation to check them - they are still in the parking garage not the Children's arena. We decided not to bring any of those items.

IV. Heritage Oshawa Volunteer Time: Robert, John, & Diane all stayed most of both days. The booth was manned at all times. Patty helped plan the event but was unable to attend. Allan Willison also visited the booth.

V. Planning for the Event: Working Group discussions were held online & we had a brief discussion at the Parking garage

VI. Suggestions made during the event in order of them coming up:

A. By Group Members:

- Diane suggested a mileage allowance & meal budget if the event is a day-long event
- Current brochures
- Guest book & counting numbers
- City of Oshawa flag full size to get attention
- Small size City of Oshawa flags - paper on a stick style - as handouts
- Alan suggested name tags
- Be prepared to put more materials on walls if they are available
- Blow up and frame some of the pictures and maps for easy display during future events
- Thank you letter to the Market should be sent - see Attachment A below

B. By Members of the Public:

- Oshawa should have a Heritage Festival & Celebration in downtown Oshawa blocking off the streets for it next year for the 100th anniversary
- Historical themed metal sculptures
- Research & Promote Oshawa's stories more

VII. Feedback & Overall comments:

- We had a number stop by & interact. It was well received
- Handouts went over well - Diane led 2 kids in singing Oh Canada after they received their flags
- No problems were experienced or complaints heard, albeit there were some concerns about tearing down buildings & promoting history
- We found out about a house where a famous hockey player lived (we are leaving out names & address here)
- We had someone tell about a very impressive early 1800's Black family in Oshawa, including information on two of their children who both became quite prominent in the USA. All thought the story should be known

VIII. This is the final report of the Working Group to full Heritage Oshawa Meeting

Attachment A to the Heritage Week Working Group Report

We recommend The City of Oshawa send out the following letter:

Erik Tamm
c/o The Oshawa Markets
555 Simcoe Street South
Oshawa, Ontario
L1H 8K8

February 24, 2023

Dear Sir:

Thank you for hosting the Heritage Oshawa Heritage Week information booth on Feb 18, 2023 & Feb 19, 2023. The booth was well received by the public & gave us great exposure. We also note your food court was excellent.

Thanks again!

The City of Oshawa