

Date: February 11, 2026  
Time: 10:00am  
Location: Kinsmen Room, Meridian Community Centre & via Zoom

Attendance: Renee Hannes  
Stephanie Jones  
Lori McClay  
Tammy Van Den Brink, Chair  
Yvonne Van Lankeld  
Shellee Niznik, Councillor

Staff: Karen Blake, Culture and Community Enhancement Programmer  
Halee Braun, Supervisor of Recreation Programs  
Octavia Mwangi, Co-op Student  
Jodi Conte, Deputy Clerk

Regrets: Rajbir Kaur

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**1. Call to Order and Declaration of Quorum**

Noting that quorum was present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

**2. Land Recognition Statement**

The Chair recited the Land Recognition statement.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Yvonne Van Lankeld  
Seconded by: Stephanie Jones

**THAT the agenda for the February 11, 2026 meeting of the Pelham Cultural Advisory Committee be adopted as presented.**

**Carried**

**4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature**

There were no pecuniary interests disclosed by any of the members present.

**5. Approval of Minutes**

**Moved by:** Renee Hannes  
**Seconded by:** Yvonne Van Lankeld

**THAT the minutes of the December 10, 2025 Pelham Cultural Advisory Committee meeting be approved.**

**Carried**

**6. Unfinished Business****6.1 2026 Committee Goals**

The committee revisited a priority identified during its current term, namely the potential creation of a granting body or establishing a way to formally recognize local artists. It was recommended that a future Committee bring this matter forward for further consideration.

**Moved by:** Tammy Van Den Brink  
**Seconded by:** Stephanie Jones

**THAT the Committee recommends a future committee to consider establishing a formal artist recognition award system.**

**Carried**

**7. 2026 Committee Goals****7.1 Utility Box Program**

The committee discussed painting of three utility boxes and discussions included potential artists, themes, color schemes, and specific box locations.

**Moved by:** Yvonne Van Lankeld  
**Seconded by:** Tammy Van Den Brink

**THAT the committee recommends that three utility boxes located in Ridgeville be designated as locations for wrapped public art;**

**AND THAT art students from E.L Crossley be requested to create the artwork in collaboration with the Garden Club that will feature themes related to local flora and fauna, and use a similar colour scheme and/or technique to the other boxes within the Utility Box Program.**

**Carried**

## 7.2 Gateway Project

The Committee noted that the Gateway Project requires directions from Town Hall. It was recommended that a future Committee bring this matter forward for further consideration.

**Moved by:** Renee Hannes  
**Seconded by:** Lori McClay

**THAT the Committee recommends a future committee to consider bringing the Gateway Project forward for review and direction.**

**Carried**

## 7.3 Graffiti Wall Project

K. Blake provided an update on information received and noted a report would be prepared for Council's consideration. The report is anticipated to be brought forward in March to seek approval to proceed with the project.

R. Hannes left the meeting at 11:00 AM.

## 7.4 Niagara College Acting Program

S. Jones updated the Committee on the session scheduled for March 12 at OPTH which will be filmed to introduce participants to the college acting program and promote cultural enrichment within the Town.

## 7.5 Seniors Writing Workshop

Y. Van Lankeld proposed a free writing workshop for seniors, focusing on cognitive skills, journaling or memoir writing. Discussion included the potential for intergenerational participation, and options for recording stories. A subgroup may explore ongoing options for the workshop.

**Moved by:** Tammy Van Den Brink  
**Seconded by:** Lori McClay

**THAT the Committee explore options for a Seniors Writing Workshop, to be led by a Committee member with staff assistance, including intergenerational participation, journaling or memoir writing, and accommodation for recording stories as needed.**

**Carried**

## 8. Black History Month – Collaborative Art Project

Funding of \$250 has been requested for a project called 'Fabric of our Being' tapestry project, inspired by a Nadine Williams' poem.

**Moved by:** Lori McClay  
**Seconded by:** Stephanie Jones

**THAT the Committee approve the use of \$250 of the Pelham Cultural Advisory Committee's operating budget for the 'Fabric of our Being' project.**

**Carried**

**9. Arches Recognition Update**

K. Blake reported that recognition bricks have been ordered and will be installed in spring.

**10. Next Meeting**

March 11, 2026 at 10:00 a.m., Main Level Meeting Room, Meridian Community Centre.

**11. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

**Moved by:** Yvonne Van Lankeld  
**Seconded by:** Lori McClay

**THAT this regular meeting of the Pelham Cultural Advisory Committee be adjourned until the next scheduled meeting.**

**Carried**

*Tammy van den Brink*  
Tammy van den Brink (Mar 24, 2026 09:45:16 EDT)

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**Tammy Van Den Brink, Chair**

*Karen Blake*

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**Karen Blake, Culture and Community Enhancement Programmer**