

Report to Community and Protective Services Committee

To: Chair and Members
Community and Protective Services Committee
From: Cathy Saunders, City Clerk
Subject: Proposed Amendment – Eldon House By-law
Date: February 9, 2021

Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the City Clerk, the proposed by-law attached as Appendix “A” to the staff report dated February 9, 2021, being a by-law to amend By-law A.-6825-162, as amended, being “A By-law to establish a municipal service board for the purpose of operating and Managing Eldon House” to amend the Board composition to provide for the appointment of a past Chair of the Board as a Director, BE INTRODUCED at the Municipal Council meeting to be held on February 23, 2021.

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to bring forward a proposed by-law for Municipal Council’s consideration, in response to a request from the Eldon House Board, to amend the composition of the Board to allow for the appointment of a past Chair of the Board as a Director.

Linkage to the Corporate Strategic Plan

Strengthening Our Community by continuing to invest in culture by maintaining the heritage resources of Eldon House to foster an appreciation of London’s community and cultural heritage.

Analysis

1.0 Background Information

1.1 Previous Reports Related to this Matter

Item #3 – 8th Report of the Investment and Economic Prosperity Committee, May 2012
Item #2 – 19th Report of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee, November 2014

1.2 Background for the establishment of the Board of Directors

On May 22, 2012 the Municipal Council passed By-law A.-6825-162 entitled “A By-law to establish a municipal service board for the purpose of operating and managing Eldon House”.

On November 25, 2014, the Municipal Council passed an amendment to By-law A.-6825-162, to amend the composition of the Board of Directors to expand the number of Directors from five (5) to nine (9) and to provide for Directors having more specific background and experience to assist in the management of Eldon House. This included background and experience in human resources and labour relations, public history or education and marketing.

At the Municipal Council meeting held on January 12, 2021 the following resolution was passed in response to a request from the Eldon House Board to amend the composition of the Board of Directors to add the past Chair of the Board as a Director:

“That the City Clerk BE DIRECTED to bring forward to a future meeting of the Municipal Council a by-law to incorporate the proposed amendments to the Eldon House Corporation by-law, as requested by the Eldon House Corporation Board of Directors as outlined in the communication dated November 24, 2020, from M. Donachie, Eldon House Corporation. (2020-C12) (4.2/2/CPSC)”

For your reference, the November 24, 2020 communication from the Eldon House Corporation in support of the request is attached as Appendix “B” to this report.

2.0 Discussion and Considerations

Although it is not ideal to have an even number Board of Directors, in support of the request, the Board of Directors have indicated the following:

“The goal of this measure is to provide continuity in Eldon House’s leadership, ensuring the institutional knowledge and experience build up by a Past Chair could be accessed quickly and efficiently by current office-bearers in key roles.”

3.0 Financial Impact/Considerations

There is no additional financial impact anticipated from the proposed change in composition of the Board of Directors.

Conclusion

In response to the request of the Eldon House Corporation and the direction of the Municipal Council, it is recommended that the proposed by-law attached as Appendix “A” to the staff report dated February 9, 2021, being a by-law to amend By-law A.-6825-162, as amended, being “A by-law to establish a municipal service board for the purpose of operating and Managing Eldon House” to amend the Board composition to provide for the appointment of a past Chair of the Board as a Director, BE INTRODUCED at the Municipal Council meeting to be held on February 23, 2021.

Prepared and Recommended by:

Cathy Saunders, City Clerk

APPENDIX "A"

Bill No.
2021

By-law No. A.-6825-

A by-law to amend By-law A.-6825-162, as amended, entitled "A by-law to establish a municipal service board for the purpose of operating and managing Eldon House" to amend the Board composition to provide for the appointment of a past Chair of the Board as a Director.

WHEREAS subsection 5(3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended, provides that a municipal power shall be exercised by by-law;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Council passed By-law A-6825-162 on May 22, 2012 to establish a municipal service board for the purpose of operating and managing Eldon House;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Council deems it appropriate to amend By-law A.6395-162, as amended, to amend the composition of the Board of Directors by adding an additional Director being a past Chair of the Board;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the City of London enacts as follows:

1. By-law A.-6825-162, as amended by By-law A.-6825(a)-385 is hereby amended by deleting section 3.1 in its entirety and by replacing it with the following new section 3.1 as follows:

- 3.1 The corporation shall consist of a board of directors composed of ten (10) directors appointed by Council each of whom shall be a person qualified to be elected as a member of Council and a resident of the City of London:
- (a) one (1) of whom shall have a background in and experience with finance;
 - (b) one (1) of whom shall have a background in and experience with law;
 - (c) one (1) of whom shall have a background in and experience with human resources and labour relations;
 - (d) one (1) of whom shall have a background in and experience with public history or education;
 - (e) one (1) of whom shall have a background in and experience with marketing and promotion;
 - (f) four (4) of whom shall have experience with one or more of the following areas:
 - a distinct interest and/or appreciation of history and heritage
 - community relations and business partnerships
 - heritage property and museum operations
 - administrative experience with municipal agencies, boards or commissions; and,
 - (g) a past Chair of the Eldon House Board of Directors.

2. This by-law comes into force and effect on the day it is passed.

PASSED in Open Council on February 23, 2021.

Ed Holder
Mayor

Catharine Saunders
City Clerk

First Reading – February 23, 2021
Second Reading – February 23, 2021
Third Reading – February 23, 2021

APPENDIX “B”



Ms. Cathy Saunders
City Clerk
City of London
300 Dufferin Ave.
London, ON N6A 4L9

November 24, 2020

Dear Ms. Saunders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Eldon House Corporation, and in response to your recent request, I am writing to provide awareness of and background to a motion that was carried at our Board meeting on May 21, 2020.

As you know, the Eldon House Corporation operates with a Board of nine Directors appointed by City Council. Latterly, the Board Executive – formed as a committee by the Board, with the goal of discussion policy decisions in a smaller, more informed group before bringing them to the full Board for final decisions – has consisted of the Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. At that meeting, the Board agreed the following:

A still-serving former Chair may sit on the Executive in the role of Past Chair, as a means of mentoring new officers.

The goal of this measure is to provide continuity in Eldon House’s leadership, ensuring the institutional knowledge and experience built up by a Past Chair could be accessed quickly and efficiently by current office-bearers in key roles. We believe it is a positive move for Eldon House and hope it will be endorsed by the City.

Sincerely

Mike Donachie
Board Chair

cc. Theresa Regnier, Board Secretary