

**Pilon, Janet**

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**Subject:** Council Meeting May 8, 2024; NO to MAGNOLIA HALL; YES to DURAND HALL at St. Marks

**From:** DNA President <[president@durandna.com](mailto:president@durandna.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, May 6, 2024 4:32 PM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); McRae, Angela <[Angela.McRae@hamilton.ca](mailto:Angela.McRae@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 2 <[ward2@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward2@hamilton.ca)>; Beattie, Jeff <[Jeff.Beattie@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jeff.Beattie@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 4 <[ward4@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward4@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 13 <[ward13@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward13@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 8 Office <[ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 1 Office <[ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca)>; Jackson, Tom <[Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca)>; Office of the Mayor <[Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca)>; Tadeson, Mark <[Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca)>; Kroetsch, Cameron <[Cameron.Kroetsch@hamilton.ca](mailto:Cameron.Kroetsch@hamilton.ca)>; McMeekin, Ted <[Ted.McMeekin@hamilton.ca](mailto:Ted.McMeekin@hamilton.ca)>; Office of Ward 3 City Councillor Nrinder Nann <[ward3@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward3@hamilton.ca)>; Francis, Matt <[Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca](mailto:Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca)>; Ward 12 Office <[ward12@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward12@hamilton.ca)>; Pauls, Esther <[Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca)>; Clark, Brad <[Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca)>; Spadafora, Mike <[Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca](mailto:Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca)>

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**RE: Council Meeting May 8, 2024**

**General Issues Committee May 1, 2024 Meeting**

**Agenda Item 10.3 Facility Naming**

The Durand Neighbourhood Association Board are in receipt of a flurry of comments from the membership relating to the decision to rename the St. Mark's facility to Magnolia Hall. The board submitted an alternative name to the membership which for practical purposes established our position. The letter to our membership is attached.

Feedback from our membership has stated that they are not opposed to **the use of the Durand name** as it **"pays homage to the community that has advocated for over three decades to safeguard this area for the neighbourhood"** but are opposed to the word Common and are also opposed to losing the historical reference to St. Mark's.

We would like to also point out that the word Magnolia has no historical, architectural or cultural connection to this property or connection to the City.

Feedback we have received favours using **"Durand Hall at St. Mark's"**.

Roberta Harman, President,  
Durand Neighbourhood Association



## Reminder: St. Mark's Church Renaming



Dear Duranders,

We hope this message finds you well. We wanted to share an important update from the DNA Board of Directors regarding the renaming of St. Mark's Church.

During our recent meeting on Wednesday, February 21, we discussed the renaming of this historical site, considering its significance to our community. As many of you know, the DNA has played a pivotal role in preserving this property as a valuable community space.

After thoughtful deliberation, one name that resonated strongly with us is "**Durand Common**." The term "Common," defined as "a piece of open land for public use," reflects our vision for this space as a shared resource for everyone. Additionally, "Durand" pays homage to the community that has advocated for over three decades to safeguard this area for the neighbourhood.

We understand that while some may always refer to it as St. Mark's, it's essential that the name reflects the collective identity of our community. Your voice matters in this decision-making process.

If you support the name "Durand Common," we encourage you to participate in the survey. The deadline for voting is March 1, so there's still time to make your voice heard. [Simply click here to access the survey.](#)

If you wish to suggest another name, please select the "suggest a name" tab within the survey tool.

We appreciate your participation, together let's shape the future of our community spaces.

Warm Regards,

**Roberta Harman, President**

On behalf of the Durand Neighbourhood Association

*For more information on the history of St. Mark's Church and the efforts to preserve it, [please refer to the document linked here.](#)*