

MINUTES
ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 2
Thursday, May 26, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Councillor Sanders (Chair), Lyris Agarat, John Crawford, Ken Johnson, Anne Lansdell (10:05 am), Roger Love, Michele Sealy, Katherine Whitworth, Bill Williamson

Staff: Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation Services; Caroline Duncan, Archivist; Tania Douglas, Senior Committee Clerk

Guest: Oliver Sommer, Saanich News

Minutes

MOVED by R. Love and Seconded by B. Williamson: "That the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held April 28, 2016 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

ACH AWARDS – PARTNERSHIP WITH SAANICH NEWS

Oliver Sommer was present to discuss a partnership with Saanich News to promote the Saanich Arts, Culture and Heritage Awards Program. The following was noted:

- Saanich News reaches a circulation of over 31,000, and is prepared to be a communications channel via print and online ads as well as Facebook and Twitter.
- They suggest a story-telling editorial with a callout at the end for nominations.
- A wrap-up feature to highlight the program and awards recipients would be done.
- A digital nomination platform is suggested to host the nomination process.
- Saanich News is willing to pay for the costs of plaques (or whatever is chosen to be given to recipients), and they can leverage partners to help in gift-giving.
- If possible, they ask Saanich to consider co-branding with them to develop these awards and also any consideration of budget would be appreciated.

A discussion occurred and the following was noted:

- Saanich News is happy to reach out to TV and radio partners (CTV/CFAX), and from an arts standpoint, they own Monday Magazine so may be able to do something with them as well.
- Saanich News is always looking for good stories and would like this message shared.
- The Committee would like to be able to edit and approve pieces prior to publication.
- This type of help would ease the burden on staff.
- This is a high-value offer. Concern was expressed about the Committee maintaining editorial control, ensuring there are no political downsides, and ensuring that it is known that this is a District of Saanich award, and not a Saanich News award.
- There is a need to recognize contributions, but co-sponsoring is not ideal, it would be better to say 'supported by' rather than 'co-sponsored by'.
- The budget is between \$1,500 and \$2,000 (same as the Environmental Awards).
- A link from the Saanich website to the Saanich News website was suggested. SCAN should be notified as well to ensure there is good notification.

Motion: **MOVED by K. Johnson and Seconded by R. Love, “That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee supports, in principle, a partnership with Saanich News for the Arts, Culture and Heritage Awards program.”**

CARRIED

ARCHIVES

The Archivist provided an update on various items and circulated the latest News and Events newsletter (which will be the last of the season). The following was noted:

- The bus tour is on track and registration will be open in August. The tour date is scheduled for September 18th.
- Sylvia Van Kirk will be present to provide a family farm history of the McRae family at the bus tour tea.
- There are over 7,000 photos on the Archives website. The current online photo search will not be supported by Saanich when the new corporate website becomes live; instead they will be hosted by Artifactual Systems, a Vancouver-based company. This will result in a better and more complete record for our photos. Archival staff will be focusing their attention on this project over the next two months. Workshops will be held for the public on how to use the new system.
- Currently Saanich Police records are held by historical society volunteers at the Police station; Saanich Archives will soon begin assessing these historical records for eventual transfer to the Archives.

HERITAGE

Saanich Heritage Foundation Report

The Foundation is in the process of allocating grant money; various houses are assigned for repair work. The Hallmark Awards were held in May and Caroline Duncan, Archivist, was given an award for communications. Mr. Johnson shared with committee members all of Ms. Duncan’s achievements and presented her with a framed award.

Saanich 150th Birthday Celebration

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services reported that she approached the Directors about the expectation about events for Canada’s 150th birthday. There is no formal program or event being planned by Saanich. Recognition of the 150th could be done at a summer event such as the Gorge Canada Day Picnic; staff will put in a resource request for the event in the 2017 budget.

A discussion occurred and the following comments were noted:

- The tulips that have been developed to look like a Canadian flag will be available at Home Hardware stores; it would be nice if the Parks Department could plant some and maybe offer them for sale to the public.
- The organizers of the Gorge Canada Day Picnic want to focus on the 150th birthday.
- Staff will check to see if the Canada 150th logo can be placed on water bills.
- A banner design competition could be done at schools for this milestone.
- Funding from the Legacy Foundation has been provided for Saanich’s 50th Anniversary; perhaps these funds could be used for 150th banners instead.
- An 1867 walking tour could occur by the Craigflower Schoolhouse on Canada Day.
- Next year’s bus tour could have the Canada 150th theme.
- The Chair will draft a communique to send to community associations about this.
- The Hallmark Society is trying to plan something for the 150th birthday celebration.

- Canada's 150th means something different to indigenous people and perhaps the Songhees and Saanich nations should be invited to participate on Canada Day.

Motion: **MOVED by B. Williamson and Seconded by K. Whitworth, "That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee suggests that banners be created for the 150th birthday celebration of Canada in 2017."**

CARRIED

Staff suggested that committee members elect a member to contact someone at the Saanich School District regarding a possible banner competition. For further discussion at the June 2017 meeting.

ARTS

Public Art at Saanich Commonwealth Place (SCP)

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services reported that the 20 year old totem at SCP needs refurbishing and the project is now on the list for funding and action through the public art maintenance program. It is hopeful that a falling ceremony could be planned, followed by and an artist in residence program to refurbish the totem outside on site, and then a raising ceremony. There is a mural in the pool area that also requires touch ups. Staff will contact the artist, Roy Henry Vickers, who created the Salmon Totem to ask for a recommendation regarding the artwork.

A suggestion was made to engage local (Songhees nation) artists as Mr. Vickers is from another nation. Staff will consult with other departments to discuss any concerns.

Conference: Where Arts and Heritage Collide

The Chair presented information about a conference she attended about cultural identity, place-making, and pride of place in cultural planning. A discussion occurred about creative relevance or "crelevance" and the question was asked what in Saanich is relevant. The importance of creating cultural spaces was discussed as was what makes a liveable city and what defines Saanich as a community.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is Thursday, June 23, 2016.

Councillor Sanders, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary