

**MINUTES**  
**ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 2  
**Thursday, September 22, 2016 at 9:30 am**

Present: Councillor Sanders (Chair), Lyris Agarar, John Crawford, Ken Johnson, Anne Lansdell, Michele Sealey, Katherine Whitworth, Bill Williamson, Ann Whittaker, School District 61 (non-voting liaison)

Staff: Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation Services; Evelyn Wolfe, Acting Archivist; Harley Machielse, Director of Engineering (10:50 am); Tania Douglas, Senior Committee Clerk

Regrets: Roger Love

---

### Minutes

**MOVED by K. Johnson and Seconded by A. Lansdell: "That the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held June 23, 2016 be adopted as circulated."**

**CARRIED**

**MOVED by B. Williamson and Seconded by K. Whitworth: "That the Minutes of the Special Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meetings held August 5, 2016 and August 17, 2016 be adopted as circulated."**

**CARRIED**

The Chair informed committee members that the Archivist has left Saanich for a position at Oak Bay Municipality and that Acting Archivist, Evelyn Wolfe, is attending today.

### ARCHIVES

The Acting Archivist reported on the following:

#### **Heritage bus tour update**

- The bus tour went well this year and received positive feedback.
- Ken Johnson's report was informative and the tour of Twin Oaks was good; learning the differences between unrestored houses versus restored houses was interesting.
- The tea was very good and Sylvia Van Kirk gave an interesting talk.
- Attendance was lower this year with 38 people in attendance as opposed to the usual 54. This resulted in a loss of \$232.60. It is not known why attendance was lower; it may be due to the different website.

#### **News and updates**

- The public will have access to the online photo search website on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. This will be different from the old system and there will be a learning curve.
- As this is a new system for entering information, and there is a backlog of information to be entered, the database will not be completed this year.
- Archives received a donation of 374 interesting postcards from a family that owned the corner grocery store on Saanich and Boleskine Roads.
- The uniform that the past Archivist was able to obtain will be displayed soon.

\*\*The Acting Archivist left the meeting at 9:55 am\*\*

## HERITAGE

### Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Update

The Chair noted that two meetings had been held about Terms of Reference for a subcommittee but at the end it was decided to make it a working group. Committee members brainstormed ideas and the following was noted:

- The next meeting with staff is scheduled for October 4<sup>th</sup>. The plan is to approach Council for a resource request. Costs are not known yet and a bigger budget may be needed.
- In looking at priorities, the Committee wants to serve as ambassadors, and have and encourage celebrations within the community.
- Grants may be needed and requests need to be included with the budget to Council.
- Suggestion that the Saanich website have a Canada 150<sup>th</sup> page for the community to share events and information on via the web.
- The Chair spoke with Alan Lowe, who was Chair of the Spirit Committee for the Olympics, who suggested that the Committee should focus on a few big things.
- Staff will have Canada 150 apparel and red/white flower bulbs are planned for displays.
- Banners are a priority; suggestion to see if shopping centres could participate by flying banners. A contest could be run to have school children design banners.
- The Victoria School District is looking for partnerships and teachers will be interested in the 150<sup>th</sup> event. It may be a good idea to have kids supply ideas as to what would be successful to help celebrate. The School District Liaison will see what she can find out.
- The City of Victoria is having the theme of Truth and Reconciliation as this is not a celebration for First Nations People. They will have canoes in the harbour on Aboriginal Day; perhaps Gorge/Tillicum could have something similar on the Gorge.
- Maybe Aboriginal day could be made into a statutory holiday.
- Committee should think about what kind of legacy could be left (eg. Centennial trails, public art). The legacy could be a permanent art piece at the Cedar Hill Arts Centre, and there could be many temporary art displays throughout the municipality.
- The Community Planner should be involved as there is a public juried art process.
- The 150<sup>th</sup> logo is a national logo and can be used, and can be placed on the Active Living Guide cover page and on letterhead, etc.
- An evolving brochure could be created to show events and could be added to as more events are planned.
- A suggestion was made to get in touch with a winery or distillery to have a winefest or beerfest.
- The upcoming First Night New Year's Eve event could be a kickoff to Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>. Heritage Canada is providing fireworks and BC Transit is free that night.
- It is a challenge to get people to volunteer locally; many Saanich residents volunteer outside the municipality. How can this group communicate out in a cost effective way? Perhaps asking Saanich News if they could do a "Go" section similar to that of the Times Colonist may be beneficial.
- Social media is an excellent way to get information out to the community.
- A "this year in Saanich" historical piece could be good to advertise for interest.

### Heritage Foundation Report

Ken Johnson reported that:

- Things are good at the Foundation and their grants are almost completed.

- Letters were sent to all owners of heritage homes on the register, and a response rate of about a 15%-20% was received. Many people did not know their homes were registered.
- A lecture was recently held at the Craigflower Schoolhouse; about 60 people attended and there was standing room only. There will be upcoming talk on windows and earthquakes.
- Craigflower Elementary is being used some mornings for a small group of grade 2-5 children. A blessing ceremony was held, and the teacher is working to create a program with the Songhees First Nation.
- A gaming grant was obtained in July. The people at Craigflower School were advised to ask the Hallmark Heritage Society for help in applying for grants.

\*\*Michele Sealey left the meeting at 10:45 am\*\*

## **ARTS**

### **Arts Awards**

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services provided an update on the status of the Arts Awards. A discussion occurred and the following was noted:

- Advertising has occurred with Saanich News and via the Saanich website.
- Community associations, and art teachers of middle and secondary schools within both school districts have also been notified.
- There can be more than one winner for each award. Suggestion that acknowledgement be presented to runners up.
- An in-camera meeting will be held on October 27<sup>th</sup> to select awards recipients.
- A request was made for the communications staff to attend a meeting to introduce themselves.

### **Arts Update**

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services stated that the recent Moonfest was a success. It was held in Lambrick Park and about 2000 people attended. Also, summer arts camps were well attended – there were lots of teen programs and all-age programs. The pottery studio classes are always full.

### **School District Update**

Trustee Whittaker reported that a partnership with the Q radio station has been developed to help with maintaining the school music archives. They have the most incredible collection of sheet music; music copyright is very expensive and they have a 100 year old collection. They also have received a very large donation from a private resident (including a home).

## **COUNCIL CHAMBERS RECONFIGURATION/WEBCASTING UPDATE**

The Director of Engineering discussed the most recent version of the floorplans being used in Council Chambers and noted they have had a couple different configurations over the past year. The current setting seems to be working not too badly. Various ideas were presented and the following comments were noted:

- There are concerns with ensuring accessibility and having good sightlines. Some members suggested that the sightlines are not very good with the current seating.
- Staff need to balance the cost and the impact to Chambers with the views.
- Suggestion to have the audience floor sloped.

- Meetings are less productive when people are higher on stage and have the ability to 'perform' or grandstand at meetings.
- Staff are looking at moving the dias to provide more openness to the u-shape. Existing millwork and seats could be used and the Mayor would have a new but smaller desk.
- A new lecturn with a seat would be good for people in terms of height needs and would minimize views impact. It was noted that the CRD has a plexi-glass podium.
- New carpet is proposed for the room.
- The Heritage Foundation has provided some input to staff for consideration.
- Webcasting is still being explored; perhaps a trial can be done. This will go back to Council in a few months for discussion.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am

## **NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting is Thursday, October 27, 2016

---

Councillor Sanders, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

---

Committee Secretary