

MINUTES
ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 2
Thursday, January 22, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Councillor Sanders (Chair), Kathleen Brennan, John Crawford, Valerie Green, Anne Lansdell, Roger Love

Staff: Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation Services; Cameron Scott, Manager of Community Planning; Caroline Duncan, Archivist; Brenda Weatherston, Recreation Programmer/Community Arts Specialist; Tania Douglas, Senior Committee Clerk

Absent: Lyris Agarat, Kay Beckett, Ken Johnson

Minutes

MOVED by A. Lansdell and Seconded by R. Love: "That the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held November 27, 2014 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

SCHEDULE OF REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

After a brief discussion occurred regarding the meeting schedule, consensus was that the regular meetings would continue to be held at 9:30 a.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month. To be further discussed if it becomes problematic for anyone.

INTRODUCTIONS/REVIEW OF TERMS OF REFERENCE AND COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

Roundtable introductions were made and new members John Crawford and Kathleen Brennan provided some information about their arts and heritage background.

The Committee Terms of Reference were reviewed, and the following was noted:

- The Committee can recommend policy for Council's consideration.
- Presently there is no student liaison available; they are contacted about every six months for interest, however the meeting time conflicts with school hours.
- There is no need to edit the Terms of Reference at this time.

ARCHIVES UPDATE

The Archivist provided information about the annual Heritage Bus Tour which is held in September. The theme this year being considered focuses mostly on heritage buildings owned by and re-purposed by Saanich including: McRae House, Canoe Club, Stranton Lodge, Dodd House, Lambrick House, Goward House, Craigflower Schoolhouse, Royal Oak Schoolhouse, Hampton Hall, and Martelli House. Craigflower Schoolhouse and Royal Oak Schoolhouse, although not owned by the municipality, could also be included.

Committee members approved of the theme and discussed locations for the tea as well as advertising. It was also noted that the Saanich Hall is 50 years old this year and this can be highlighted.

HERITAGE UPDATE

Guided Walking Tour to Celebrate Heritage Week

The Manager of Community Planning provided information about a guided walking tour which is tentatively scheduled for February 18, 2015. The following was noted:

- The theme this year in BC “Main Streets”. West Saanich Road was chosen as the location for the Saanich tour, as it is a historical main street in Saanich including the old Municipal Hall, Royal Oak Community Hall and Royal Oak School House.
- Key participants in this event are the Royal Oak Heritage Society, Saanich Commonwealth Place walking group, and staff.
- Advertising for this will occur starting next week (last week in January).
- Suggestions were made to try to have an expert at each heritage location on the route, and/or to have a printed self-tour brochure available for participants.
- It was suggested that people be prepared to split the walking group, if it is found that people have different mobility issues (eg. speed of walkers, accessibility issues).
- It would be nice to have other heritage walking tours available on the GIS mapping.

Public Art – Craigflower Bridge

The Manager of Community Planning advised that the proposal call has been made for Public Art at the Craigflower Bridge and a jury has been called together to oversee the public art competition process. The broad theme for the competition is “Bridging Perspectives”. The funding process for public art projects was explained.

Heritage Week

The Archivist provided information about Heritage Week (Feb. 16-22); the theme is “Main Street”. Archives is pleased to partner with the Greater Victoria Public Library to present heritage week speaker, Nick Russell, who will take his audience through Saanich using historic postcards with his talk on “Saanich Neighbourhoods Through Postcards”. This talk will be held at the Centennial Library on February 20th at 2:00 p.m. Advertising will occur on the Saanich website, GVPL program registration, BC Heritage Week website and in the Saanich News.

The Archivist also shared that a local family has given Archives a collection of 480 postcards from about 1906-1920.

SAANICH HERITAGE FOUNDATION REPORT

The Heritage Foundation representative was not present to make a report. The Chair informed the committee that Council approved the motion regarding the heritage designation of the Municipal Hall interior. She referenced the JC Scott report and advised that she had spoken to JC Scott recently, who stated he had noticed ‘creep’ in the hall (eg. work related material are creeping into public areas). The Manager of Community Planning was asked to check whether the Hall landscaping is designated as heritage with the rest of the building exterior.

The Chair also informed members that Public Hearings are coming up for two properties requesting designation (on Gorge Road and on Harriet Road).

ARTS UPDATE

The Community Arts Specialist advised that they have finished a call for artists for exhibits in three areas of the Municipal Hall; there are still a couple of spots available if anyone knows any artists that would like to display their work.

Arts and Culture Strategy Review

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services continued with updating the committee on the status and priority levels of items in the Arts and Culture Strategy. Staff will provide a copy of the document with the final changes highlighted. Some comments noted:

- Recreation is hosting a teacher Pro-D day in February for Art Teachers; this will include hands-on projects and help to connect teachers with each other.
- In 2015 staff will undertake a Youth Development Strategy to help with creating recreation/culture opportunities for youth.
- Recreation will again partner with the Community Arts Council for the Embrace Aging event in March 2015.
- Positive feedback has been received from the public about the arts sampler classes.

COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL OF GREATER VICTORIA UPDATE

The CACGV representative was not present to provide a report.

UPDATES/CARRY FORWARD

The Chair provided background information on the carry-forward items listed for future discussion. Goal setting will be discussed next month.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is Thursday, February 26, 2015.

Councillor Sanders, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary