

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

Present: Councillor Sanders (Chair), Lyris Agarat, John Crawford, Valerie Green, Ken Johnson, Anne Lansdell

Staff: Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation Services; Shari Holmes-Saltzman, Senior Planner Community Planning; Brenda Weatherston, Community Arts Specialist; Tania Douglas, Senior Committee Clerk

Absent: Kay Beckett, Kathleen Brennan, Roger Love

Minutes

MOVED by K. Johnson and Seconded by J. Crawford: "That the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held September 18, 2015 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

UPTOWN-DOUGLAS CORRIDOR PLAN

The Senior Planner, Community Planning, provided a background of the Uptown/Douglas Corridor Plan and noted the Terms of Reference were recently approved by Council. Comments noted:

- A map of the plan area was presented. This is a 20-30 year land use plan that is not large in area but a big mix of commercial, industrial and residential properties.
- A consultant will be hired to work with staff and the public to develop a vision and community plan that will guide development for Uptown major centre, the Douglas corridor and surrounding area.
- An advisory committee will be established and will be comprised of about 16 individuals that broadly represent the area demographic and interests. Their role will be to provide advice on public engagement techniques to ensure outreach is effectively undertaken in the community; promote the project and public engagement opportunities within the community; and, provide feedback to staff on plan concepts.
- In response to a question about density changing, the Senior Planner noted that density increases are likely. She noted a high projected population increase due to the fact that there are few residential properties in the area at this time.
- There are a number of heritage designated homes in this area and development may put these buildings at risk. The Senior Planner stated that the heritage buildings in the area have been mapped out, there will be a process surrounding heritage applications, and it is likely that a policy will be developed in this regard.
- This area will likely be the 'downtown' for Saanich; discussions have occurred regarding place-making and creating a 'heart' of Saanich.
- Maybe some type of theatre/arts area could be included in the Uptown area.
- The Galloping Goose interchange is unique to the area and it is important to retain and expand upon to make it easily and safely accessible from all areas.
- A suggestion was made to ensure that a person with arts/culture/heritage experience be included in the advisory committee to ensure that these issues are considered.

ARTS

The Community Arts Specialist reported:

- A successful Moon Festival was held September 26th. There was good press coverage and collaboration with Gordon Head Middle School, and they benefited with the fact that Culture days was during the same time this year.
- The 3rd Annual Artists Exhibition to be held November 5-17 at Cedar Hill Arts Centre.
- Early bird holiday market will be held at Cedar Hill Arts Centre on November 21st.
- A call for artists will go out for Municipal Hall exhibit space in 2016.
- The Family Arts Festival will be held on Family Day, February 8, 2016; please call Brenda Weatherston if you would like to volunteer.

ARTS AWARDS

A brief discussion occurred. The Chair noted she hopes to look at this in the New Year, a budget is needed. Staff have a preliminary budget with the ideas but it is not formalized yet. They will not be able to piggyback on the Environmental Awards.

ARCHIVES

Saanich Archives news and events were circulated to committee members. A newspaper article on Dodd House was circulated and it was noted that Archives staff have been of great assistance with the upcoming 50th Anniversary celebration.

SAANICH HERITAGE FOUNDATION REPORT

- A request for demolition has been made for 574 Walter Street and for 1542 Mount Douglas Cross Road.
- Hallmark Heritage Society will be providing a lecture on Wednesday, October 28th, at Craigflower Schoolhouse, about insurance for older homes.
- Charles Hill to speak, October 29th at 630 Yates Street; sponsored by Heritage BC.
- Heritage BC 2016 Conference will be held May 5-7 in Vancouver.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAANICH MUNICIPAL HALL

- The Chair circulated a tentative agenda. It was noted that the base for the commemorative sign will be in place outside, however the sign will be unveiled inside on December 1st.
- The self-guided tour pamphlet will be re-done with the visual identity colours; guide contains the original 1965 narrative; needs to be sent to the printers.
- Council Chambers will be ready for the event.
- Advertising should commence on November 1st if possible.
- Community Associations to be sent an invitation, along with the BC Architectural Association (Victoria Branch), and the Urban Development Institute. Suggestion that College/University trades may be interested in attending.
- Refreshments to be served (maybe some 50's style, eg. thimble cookies), cake with photo of hall, Victoria bars, Nanaimo bars, etc.
- Day following (Dec 2), V. Green to speak.
- School tours suggested for the week.
- Thursday/Friday to be self-guided tours only.
- Name tags needed. Keepsake such as program/Saanich pins suggested.
- K. Johnson to have Powerpoint on December 1st with a history of the hall and chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is a special meeting to be held Thursday, November 12, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

Councillor Sanders, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary