

**MINUTES**  
**ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 2  
**March 27, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.**

Present: Councillor Sanders (Chair), Lyris Agarat, Kay Beckett, Pauline Cohen, Kim Fawthorpe, Valerie Green, Ken Johnson, Roger Love

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

Regrets: Anne Lansdell

Guest: Bob Williams, Community Arts Council of Greater Victoria

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### **Minutes**

**MOVED by V. Green and Seconded by R. Love: "That the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held February 27, 2014 be adopted as circulated."**

**CARRIED**

### **ARCHIVES**

#### **Heritage Bus Tour**

The Archivist provided information on the planning of the Heritage Bus Tour. The date of the tour will be September 28, 2014, and a bus has been booked. A publicity piece for the Saanich Recreation e-newsletter is being created and St. Aidan's Church is being considered for the tea location. Staff is working on locating a heritage house to tour; both the Thrums house and the McClung house owners will be approached in this regard. It is hoped that the cost of the tour can be kept to about \$30 per person.

V. Green will track the route to determine the timing.

### **HERITAGE**

#### **Heritage Action Plan Update**

The Manager of Community Planning was present to provide an update on the Heritage Action Plan. The Archivist also provided an update on the Archives responsibilities in the plan. A discussion occurred and the following was noted:

- The Plan was adopted by Saanich Council in 2007; many initiatives have been completed and many are ongoing items in staff work plans.
- The Saanich Community Heritage Register is fully digital and updated as time permits.
- As of March 2014, only one eligible Saanich-owned property (321 Gorge Road) is left to be designated as heritage. A report is currently in progress to designate this property.

- A consultant was hired to identify the location of heritage properties potentially suitable for the heritage registration/designation in about 2005/06 and over 200 houses were identified. In 2008 a letter with information about the benefits of heritage building designation was sent to owners of privately owned heritage buildings. It might be beneficial to revisit this again and pursue an outreach program. Funding this may be an issue.
- The Saanich Heritage Programs Guide was updated last in 2013; staff was asked to provide information about available grants.
- Planning and Facilities departments work together to ensure municipally owned heritage sites and buildings are maintained; staff was asked to provide information about which sites have conservation plans.
- In response to a question, staff advised that inquiries regarding landscaping at municipally owned heritage sites in parks can be directed to the Parks department.
- Staff is always looking for funding opportunities for conservation and feasibility planning, however less provincial funding is available.
- Staff was asked to provide information about the Cultural and Natural Resource Inventory.
- The Province monitors archaeological requirements through the Heritage Conservation Act.
- The ongoing oral history program has resulted in 38 recorded interviews since 2007; some oral history sharing may occur between Saanich, Royal Oak Historical Association and the Prospect Lake Historical Society.
- A community mapping project was completed for the Arts and Culture Strategy; committee members inquired whether this is on the Saanich website.
- Staff was asked to inquire whether contributions can be made for heritage signs through the Saanich Legacy Foundation. It was noted that some of the heritage display panels need some repair.
- Brochures were handed out of heritage walking tours in the Tattersall & Quadra area and the Prospect Lake area.
- Staff was asked to check that the heritage information portion of the Saanich website is working correctly.
- Saanich Archives offers History Detectives course materials for grades 3-5.
- It was noted that the Heritage Branch now contracts everything out to Heritage BC.
- A discussion occurred about having a Heritage Open Door Day at the Uptown Centre.

Committee members will further discuss the priorities of the Heritage Action Plan at the April meeting.

\*\*\* V. Green and K. Johnson left the meeting at 10:40 a.m. \*\*\*

## **ARTS**

### **Civic Public Arts Program**

The Manager of Community Planning provided an overview of the Civic Public Art Program in the Comprehensive Arts Policy (CAP) and the following was noted:

- 1% of the value of the capital budgets is allocated for above ground projects towards the purchase or commission of public art to be integrated into or displayed in public areas.  
1% of the budget for municipal building construction/renovation projects in excess of \$250,000 is allocated to the purchase or commission of public art for that building or structure.

- There is approximately \$150,000 in the budget at this time.
- The CAP ensures that any civic public art project will be chosen through an equitable process and that projects are of sufficient value to merit selection. It is recommended that private sector public art projects include the jury process.
- Consideration of artwork on the Craigflower bridge needs to go through the proper process as outlined in the CAP. Saanich, View Royal and Esquimalt/Songhees people are having discussions about interpretive signs on the bridge.
- Missing in the policy is the criteria for a public art fund. Staff will examine the establishment of criteria for funding.

### **Carnival of the Arts Update**

The Senior Manager of Recreation provided an update and noted:

- Artists are being secured for the April 26<sup>th</sup> Carnival of the Arts event and promotional posters are expected to be done this week.
- Staff is working on the Summer Active Living Guide and it was noted that there will be many art-oriented summer camps available to students.
- The Youth Limelight event will coincide with Youth Week.

Other art updates from committee members included the following:

- The Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival begins April 1<sup>st</sup> and serves about 5,000 student participants. This month long event is held at many venues; a \$20 festival book is available and provides information and entrance to some performances. The festival has been running for 87 years.
- The Community Arts Council of Greater Victoria continues to work on organizing an event to be held this September.
- This year the Greater Victoria Visual Arts Show will be held at Uptown in May.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Committee members walked over to the Garth Homer Centre for an art tour.

### **NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting is Thursday, April 24, 2014

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Councillor Sanders, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

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Committee Secretary