

MINUTES
ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 2
June 26, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Councillor Sanders (Chair), Lyris Agarar, Kay Beckett, Pauline Cohen, Valerie Green, Ken Johnson, Anne Lansdell, Roger Love

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

Regrets: Kim Fawthorpe

Guest: Bob Williams, Community Arts Council of Greater Victoria

Minutes

MOVED by R. Love and Seconded by A. Lansdell: "That the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held May 22, 2014 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

ARCHIVES

Heritage Bus Tour

V. Green reported that the route has been timed out and needs a bit of fine tuning, the tour will end with a tea at St. Aidans Church where a history of the Church will be given. There will be six major points along the routes, two where people will leave the bus to wander. A local author/illustrator will open their home to tour participants. Registration for this tour will commence on August 6, 2014.

Update on Heritage Donation from Mr. Genn

V. Green reported that she, along with the Archivist, went to view Mr. Genn's collection, which is incredible. Ms Green stated that the Archivist is interested in acquiring most of the smaller items. The Genn family 3 generations back were accountants to big local families and has copies of Wills as well as photographs that have not been seen before. Two of the bigger pieces in the collection include a desk that belonged to Benjamin Pearce, Surveyor General of BC, and a working safe from the 1800's that belonged to J.A. Sayward.

The Chair reported that she spoke with the Lands Department and to discuss the possibility of the house on Gorge Road being used as a museum in the future.

HERITAGE

Lease Agreements for Saanich Heritage Properties

The Chair provided a draft memo which recommends that all agreements for Saanich owned heritage properties include similar language to that of the Gorge Boathouse lease agreement. Committee discussed this issue and consensus was that there could also be language included about incurring a penalty should unauthorized changes be made to leased/rented dwellings.

Motion: MOVED by K. Johnson and Seconded by R. Love, “That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee recommends that correspondence be sent to the appropriate department with the recommendation that all rental/lease agreements for Saanich owned heritage properties include the same or similar language as the Gorge Boathouse agreement, and to add language about potential penalties for unauthorized changes.”

CARRIED

Update on Hallmark Society moving into Craigflower School House

K. Johnson reported that Hallmark Society is interested in acquiring the site and will respond to a RFP in this regard. There is no tax grants available for government owned properties (the site is provincially-owned). The site has been closed for a couple of years and Hallmark feels they could do a good job of maintaining the site. The main floor would be for meetings and interpretations. Heritage 101 events could be held there and displays could be put up during Gorge on Art days. Teachers have expressed interest in having the schoolhouse open again for field trips.

ARTS

The Community Arts Specialist provided information regarding the upcoming Gorge on Arts event on Canada Day. The Senior Manager of Recreation Services provided information about Music in the Park, Strawberry Festival and Cadboro Bay Festival and also noted that there will be Jazz playing every Wednesday night at the Royal Oak Cemetery this summer. On September 13th, there will be an afternoon arts fair called Fall for the Arts; various artists and arts clubs will be invited to participate.

It was noted that the Archives has an exhibit at the Cedar Hill Arts Centre which commemorates the start of World War I.

COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL OF GREATER VICTORIA REPORT/UPDATE

B. Williams reported that the CACGV will be busy in August/September and the Bay Centre has given them 3,000 square feet of store space to use. In combination with the September Fall for the Arts event, the Paint in the Park event will be similar to the Moss Street Paint-in; artists will be invited to set up their easels and paint in the green space behind the Cedar Hill Rec Centre. Art groups and suppliers will also be invited.

BRAINSTORMING

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services presented topics for future meetings including: a cultural and natural resource inventory, reprioritizing the Arts and Culture strategy, a presentation by James Lam, CRD Arts Manager, and information from another municipality regarding their experience in setting up a museum.

A discussion occurred and the point was raised that it is important to raise the profile and awareness of heritage/arts issues and the best is to focus on promoting them.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is Thursday, September 25, 2014

Councillor Sanders, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary