

MINUTES
ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 2
September 19, 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; Cameron Scott, Manager of Community Planning; Caroline Duncan, Archivist; Jane Evans, Heritage Planner; Brenda Weatherston, Community Arts Specialist; Tania Douglas, Senior Committee Clerk

Regrets: Kim Fawthorpe

Guest speakers: Susan Haddon and Lana Burns, Quadra Cedar Hill Community Association

Minutes

MOVED by A. Lansdell and Seconded by K Johnson: "That the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held June 25, 2014, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

GRAFFITI ART PRESENTATION

Lana Burns and Susan Haddon, Quadra Cedar Hill Association, presented an idea to committee members regarding graffiti art on the cinder block building at Cedar Hill Recreation Centre. The following was noted:

- A cinder block building located on the grounds of the Cedar Hill Recreation/Arts Centre is constantly being tagged.
- The building at CHRC is in disrepair; the roof is falling down and the windows/door are covered by plywood. It would be nice to remove the rot and make it more inviting.
- There is nothing inviting about the building; considering the centre houses daycare, seniors programs, arts programs, etc., it would be nice to allow urban mosaic art or graffiti art to be painted on the building.
- An example given: the Wildfire Bakery on Quadra Street has graffiti art; artists are to paint during non-business hours.
- The building at CHRC could even be painted to advertise that this is an arts centre.
- Usually the agreement is between the artist and the property owner and any words must meet the sign bylaw requirements.

A discussion ensued and the following comments were noted:

- Art on the building should stop any tagging; taggers usually do not deface art.
- Art can be a reason to visit a city; in 2013 the first Urban Art Festival was held in Montreal; artists pieces were left on various buildings for one year and the festival brought in over 800,000 visitors.
- Graffiti art on the building would tie in well with the Arts Centre.
- The Arts School in Victoria have rotating art done on their walls by students.
- Saanich's Sign Bylaw regulates wall signs and the Unsightly Premises Bylaw requires that murals be approved by Council or the Jury process outlined in the Comprehensive Arts Policy.
- Concern was expressed that controls should be in place to ensure that public art content is appropriate.

- A suggestion was made to review other municipality's policy on urban art.

Motion: MOVED by K. Beckett and Seconded by A. Lansdell, "That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee recommends that staff reviews the policy and/or procedures surrounding urban art in the City of Victoria, and another comparable municipality, and report back to committee in this regard."

CARRIED

Committee members requested that pictures of buildings with graffiti/urban art be included in the report.

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services stated she will contact the Parks Department about the status of the building, as it is possibly earmarked for removal.

ARCHIVES

Heritage Bus Tour Update

The Archivist advised that the September 28, 2014, bus tour is not yet full; there are 13 seats remaining at \$30 per seat. The tea will be coordinated once final numbers are in.

HERITAGE

Cultural Landscapes Inventory

The Heritage Planner referenced a map showing cultural landscape inventory information. The map and inventory identify cultural landscapes to help in the awareness of Saanich's history and culture and will inform future planning and development applications. A discussion occurred and the following was noted:

- Cultural landscapes are areas that have value and significance to the understanding of a community's history, 'sense of place', and are factors influencing quality of life.
- The inventory is a work in progress. Once sites and spaces are identified as culturally significant they can be added to the inventory
- The inventory does not indicate formal protection, but is simply a platform for further discussion and awareness.
- Identification of culturally significant areas will help with future policies and planning.
- UNESCO categorizes cultural landscapes as designed landscapes, evolved landscapes, and/or associative cultural landscapes. Saanich examples of each category were given.
- An inventory of cultural landscapes will increase awareness of culturally significant areas.
- The next stage is to build on the list; it may be placed on the website for public input.
- With regards to significant trees, there is a Tree Bylaw in place. Trees could be identified in the inventory, however development applications are automatically checked by staff when it comes to trees.
- This is just a draft; and input would be appreciated. A suggestion was made to add Camosun College protected landscape up to Young Building.
- The United Way may be a useful resource, they have a number of identified cultural and associated landscapes on a neighbourhood level.
- Anyone wishing to provide input can do so directly to the Heritage Planner.

Rental/Lease Agreements of Heritage Buildings

The Chair circulated a memo from the Director of Legislative Services in response to the recommendation made with regard to Rental/Lease agreements of Saanich owned heritage buildings.

Heritage Designation of Martelli House (841 Ralph Street)

The Chair advised that the Heritage Foundation discussed the heritage designation of the Martelli House last year. Concern was expressed about the building losing the exterior heritage character and also there is question about where to seek funding opportunities.

The first thing to do is to write a statement of significance and recommend that the building be designated, or at minimum, registered. A Bylaw to designate would then be required.

The Archivist stated that a mystery tin of photos were found in the house when renovations were being done (it had fallen from the attic, down into the wall). The photos were placed on the Saanich Archives website, asking for the public's help in determining the history of the house, and the Martelli family came forward. There are also two oral histories recorded from local residents.

Motion: MOVED by K. Johnson and Seconded by A. Lansdell, "That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee recommends that staff proceed with requesting that the Martelli House (841 Ralph Street) be designated as a heritage building in Saanich."

CARRIED

The Heritage Planner requested committee's assistance with investigating the history of the house.

ARTS – REVIEW OF ARTS STRATEGY PRIORITIES

The Senior Manager, Recreation Services, provided information about the 2009 Saanich Arts and Culture Strategy, which was updated in May 2014. Members were in general agreement with the timelines given in the document. In response to a question about timelines, it was noted that high priority is about 1-3 years (and is ongoing); medium priority is 3-5 years and lower priority items are 5-8 years.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2014.

Councillor Sanders, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary