

MINUTES
ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 2
Thursday, October 23, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Councillor Sanders (Chair), Lyris Agarat, Valerie Green, Ken Johnson, Roger Love

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

Regrets: Kay Beckett, Pauline Cohen, Kim Fawthorpe, Anne Lansdell

Guest: James Lam, Capital Regional District Arts Manager
Bob Williams, Community Arts Council of Greater Victoria

Minutes

MOVED by K. Johnson and Seconded by R. Love: "That the Minutes of the Arts Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held September 19, 2014 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

CRD ARTS

James Lam, Arts Manager CRD, was present to provide information regarding the CRD Arts Development Service. The following was noted:

- At the request of municipal councils, the CRD Arts Service was established in 2001 to provide assistance to not-for-profit organizations in relation to arts and culture that is of benefit to the community.
- An Arts Advisory Council is appointed by the Arts Committee with a mandate to provide advice on policies that foster and promote: the support of the arts in the community, public awareness of and involvement in the arts, the creation, exhibition and performance of artistic works, the development of artistic and other requisite skills, and shall advise the CRD Arts Committee. They also act as the adjudicative body for Arts Development Service arts funding programs.
- The CRD Arts Development Service provides funding support to arts organizations on behalf of 8 municipalities in the capital region: Victoria, Saanich, Oak Bay, Esquimalt, View Royal, Metchosin, Highlands and Sidney.
- The Arts Service has three funding programs:
 - Operating Grants provide annual financial assistance to established arts organizations for ongoing programming and administrative expenses.
 - Project Grants support emerging or established arts organizations for new, recurring or developmental initiative.
 - IDEA Grants (Innovate, Develop, Experiment, Access) support non-arts mandated organizations for arts related programming initiatives.
- Landmarks, a searchable public art website program that is a cooperative effort of the municipalities who support the CRD Arts Development Service can be found at landmarkspublicart.ca.
- Support is given to festivals, and they also work with the Victoria Foundation with its Vital Signs report.
- Statistical information from 2011 was provided for committee's information. Saanich provides about 45% or \$1,045,651 in funding.

Questions and comments from the Committee members were noted as follows:

- Financial benefits are not returned from investing in programs, but the social benefits and employment benefits in the community are a great return.
- There are issues with funding that need resolving; it's a very political issue in asking municipalities to contribute equally.
- A reserve was started in 2001; it is small and a couple of years ago the CRD decided that the reserves need to be specific so contributions to the reserve have not been made in the past couple of years. The IDEA grant is coming from the reserve.
- CRD does not contribute to heritage, only arts and culture.
- The Community Arts Council of Greater Victoria has received operating grants as well as other support from the CRD; Mr. Lam was thanked in this regard.

ARCHIVES

Heritage Bus Tour

The Archivist reported that the bus tour was once again a success; the weather cooperated, the tea went well, and it was a sold out event. It was done a little later than usual this year, and the date will likely be moved back to earlier in September next time. Members will discuss themes for next year's event in January.

Helen Stewart, whose house was on the tour this year, offered her ballroom as a future tea location. Ken Johnson also stated that the Craigflower Schoolhouse may also be a potential location for a tea.

Saanich Remembers WWI Project

The Archivist noted the Centenary of the beginning of WWI. The goal of the Saanich Remembers project centres around the honour roll; Archives would like to research each individual on the honour roll and create a biography and research file for each individual, and place this information on the website. Missing people from the roll also need to be identified – the current roll lists 355 people however it is estimated that about 800 residents of Saanich enlisted. The honour roll is not a list of who died in the war; it is a list of who served in the war.

Historical information was also provided regarding some of the issues surrounding the War (eg. employment termination for people capable of going to war) as well as a detailed history about one soldier that was provided by a relative.

In 2018 Saanich may look at having some kind of permanent memorial; it is hoped that all of the names can be included if this occurs.

In terms of enlisting help to research individuals, advertising will be done via exhibits, the website, talks, Saanich News, and outreach to some schools where it is hoped that students will adopt a name to research.

HERITAGE

Craigflower Schoolhouse

It was reported that the Hallmark Society is going into a lease with the provincial government as a tenant of the Craigflower Schoolhouse. The hope is to be in the

building by Spring or earlier.

Small improvements for energy efficiency, a deep cleaning, rotting stair replacement etc. will be done and an instant hot water tank will be installed. Fundraising will be done in order to purchase chairs.

ARTS

Review of Arts Strategy Priorities (cont'd)

The Senior Manager, Recreation Services continued with the review of the 2009 Arts Strategy. A discussion occurred about grants and it was noted that the IDEA grant is not generally for community artists unless they have partnered with an organization. Community grants is an area where some outreach could be done. Some small grants are available, and are good for smaller events. The Saanich Legacy Foundation and Saanich combine funds to grant.

*** V. Green left the meeting at 11:00 a.m. ***

Review of the Strategy continued, as did discussion of grants. The question was raised whether community associations have been contacted with regards to promoting arts, culture and heritage in Saanich, and that a session with them may be of benefit in this regard.

*** K. Johnson left the meeting at 11:20 a.m. ***

Continuation of the review will be planned for the next meeting.

Carnival of the Arts

This event was previously funded from past Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee funds that have now run out. A request for new funds will be made to the Finance Department as part of the 2015 budget process, but it will not be known until spring if there are any funds available for this event. The 2015 Operating Budget needs to be set by Council first. The event costs between \$3,500 and \$5,000.

Community Arts Council of Greater Victoria Update

Bob Williams reported that it has been a busy month; a puppet festival was held, a photo contest is now occurring with Monday Magazine, and various shows and displays have been done. An upcoming small works show will be held over three weeks. The Art in the Park event was well attended and they may look at doing it again next year. There are new members on the Executive; Bob is now past-President.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held in November 27, 2014.

Councillor Sanders, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary