

MINUTES
ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 1
Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 9:30 am

Present: Councillor Brice (Chair), Lyris Agarat, John Crawford, Ken Johnson, Leanna Rathkelly, Michele Sealey, Katherine Whitworth, Bill Williamson

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

Regrets: Anne Lansdell

Minutes

MOVED by K. Johnson and Seconded by B. Williamson: "That the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held November 24, 2016 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

CHAIR'S REPORT AND COMMITTEE MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed members and noted she was happy to be appointed to the committee and looks forward to working with members. Roundtable introductions were made and members provided background information as well.

SCHEDULE OF REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee members discussed the proposed meeting dates provided in a memo dated January 24, 2017 from the Senior Committee Clerk.

Motion: MOVED by K. Whitworth and Seconded by M. Sealey, "That the memorandum dated January 24, 2017 from the Senior Committee Clerk, with proposed 2017 meeting dates be received and that the proposed dates be approved."

CARRIED

ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Chair read out the Committee mandate in the Terms of Reference (TOR) and noted that there may be opportunity to strengthen the committee's presence in the community.

A request was made to encourage the appointment of a Youth Liaison to the committee; the Senior Manager of Recreation Services noted that the Youth Council is part of Recreation Division's programming and they will reach out accordingly. Members of the Youth Council are typically aged 14-25 years.

Motion: MOVED by B. Williamson and Seconded by M. Sealey, "That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee Terms of Reference be received."

CARRIED

STAFF LIAISON PRESENTATIONS

Archives

The Archivist provided an overview of Saanich Archives and noted that they preserve and collect the documentary heritage of Saanich with records including photographs, correspondence, minutes, reports, maps and plans. This includes corporate and private (donated) records. Collections are from current and historic boundaries, as Saanich's boundaries were broader many years ago. Archives can also provide photos for signs or program brochures if needed. She provided information about the location, hours and web resources to committee members.

The Archivist provided information about the 'Saanich Remembers' talk hosted by the Friends of BC Archives where they will present the story about the Saanich Honour Roll. Archives created one of the most comprehensive WWI commemorative projects in BC where they are collecting the names of those who served overseas in WWI and are hoping to provide a history of each person.

It was noted that there is a school lending kit available to borrow which has a number of activities and educational information.

** The Archivist left the meeting at 10:00 am **

Planning

The Manager of Community Planning provided an overview of the Planning Department's role with the committee, which includes managing applications for removal/addition of heritage registered and designated properties, reviewing Heritage Alteration Permit requests, and managing public art projects. He spoke of the juried art process and gave the example of the Craigflower Bridge as the most recent public art project that the committee was involved with. Planning works with Recreation staff on various arts initiatives, and implements and updates policy documents (Heritage Action Plan, Heritage Management Plan, Saanich Arts and Culture Strategy, Comprehensive Arts Policy etc.).

This committee will provide feedback to staff on various initiatives and will also have input on potential policy directions. Funding for Public Art was briefly discussed and it was noted that the Public Art Policy could be updated.

Committee members discussed looking at a broader view of art and include events as opposed to just stand alone artwork. The pianos in Oak Bay was mentioned as an example. Members felt it would be good to look at different areas of the municipality and think about something other than a standard piece of art to display. A request was made for copies of the Gorge Tour #1 (walking tour brochure) to be printed for distribution.

** The Manager of Community Planning left the meeting at 10:15 am **

Parks and Recreation

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services provided an overview of her role as the staff liaison to the committee and explained the community art component that her department supports. Recreation Services provides a wide array of arts programming, as well as spaces and public events.

Committee members discussed public art and heritage issues. It was noted that there is not a lot of recognition in terms of Saanich arts and that linking various arts or heritage issues to Saanich is important. For example, the Greater Victoria Arts Council website appears to claim ownership of the Cedar Hill Arts Centre gallery, and Saanich should really be recognized for owning the space. Members agreed that more awareness of arts, heritage and cultural issues means more support.

HERITAGE

Foundation Report

K. Johnson advised that the Foundation has approved six requests for financial assistance for various repairs. This will go to Council for a request for funds from the grant program. He provided information about the Foundation and noted they are separate from Saanich, and are a Society, created to fund various restoration programs for designated homes, look at alteration permits and provide other support.

The Hallmark Heritage Society is hoping their land tax issue will be resolved soon, and if they plan to appeal the tax assessment, they will need to do that soon. He noted they received a Canada 150 grant and will celebrate the 1967 Centennial with a 'love in' re-enactment at Alix Goolden hall. It was noted that the Craigflower schoolhouse is the oldest house in Saanich and that they have a photo from 1855 that shows the schoolhouse, students and parents.

Mr. Johnson answered a variety of questions from committee members about the Heritage Register, designated homes, heritage conservation areas, and deconstruction versus demolition of heritage properties.

** Mr. Johnson left the meeting at 10:35 am **

Canada 150

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services provided background information about the Canada 150 project and noted that due to the change in Chair, a motion is needed for the current working group to be dissolved and re-established.

Motion: MOVED by B. Williamson and Seconded by M. Sealey, "That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee move to dissolve the Canada 150 Working Group, and accept FCM Community Leaders Vicki Sanders, Bill Williamson, Lyris Agarar, and Michelle Sealey and ACH committee member Katherine Whitworth, as the Canada 150 Ambassadors to carry out the committee's components of Council's Canada 150 Plan."

CARRIED

A discussion occurred and the Senior Manager of Recreation Services confirmed the reporting structure of the working group is through the ACH committee and that action items and funding items need to be approved by this committee.

ARTS

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services noted that two Arts Awards recipients were not able to make the Council meeting when presentations were made, and they can be awarded at a future committee meeting.

A Council Bulletin report on the Arts Centre at Cedar Hill (CHAC) and other recreation events and programs was circulated for committee's information. It was noted that the ceramics studio in particular is a very busy venue, and in four years the CHAC has had 312 exhibits, and many dance programs and theatre performances. February 13th is the Family Arts Festival; they will have a Canada 150 theme.

Committee members felt that it would be of great value to let the public and agencies know that Saanich offers therapeutic programming at the Arts Centre to support vulnerable people (eg. Salvation Army recently had a program for their clients at the arts centre). Interest was expressed on the success of these programs. A suggestion was made to let Saanich News know of this; the Senior Manager of Recreation Services noted this could go through the Saanich Communications office.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee members asked that thanks be passed on to Councillor Sanders for her past work and devotion to the committee.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 23, 2017

Councillor Brice, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary