

MINUTES
ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 2
Thursday, May 25, 2017, 2017 at 9:30 am

Present: Councillor Brice (Chair), Lyris Agarat, John Crawford, Ken Johnson, Leanna Rathkelly, Michele Sealey, Stephanie Vieille

Staff: Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation Services; Jane Evans, Planner; Brenda Weatherston, Community Arts Specialist (10:25 am); Cst. Lisa Bruschetta, Police; Tania Douglas, Senior Committee Clerk

Regrets: Anne Lansdell, Katherine Whitworth

Minutes

MOVED by L. Rathkelly and Seconded by S. Vieille: "That the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held April 27, 2017 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

ARCHIVES

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services noted:

- The "Century of Fashion with Ivan Sayers" will be held on October 22nd and will be advertised in the fall Active Living Guide. A dozen tickets will be set aside for committee members to purchase. This event is partially funded by the committee.
- Archives is organizing speakers for the upcoming fall history talks. This will be advertised in the Archives newsletter and on the Saanich website. Posters will also be created to advertise for this event.

HERITAGE

Saanich Heritage Foundation

K. Johnson noted the following:

- The Foundation is in the process of dispersing grant funds.
- A meeting was had with the owner of 1542 Mount Douglas Cross Road; the applicant, who had applied for a demolition permit, is now looking at subdividing the lot in order to save the house.
- A subdivision at 2254 Arbutus Road could result in three heritage houses being demolished, two of them are considered significant.
- Information was provided about the difference between registered and designated buildings, and the Acts they fall under. There are approximately 260 homes on the register and just over 80 of them are designated.

Members were informed that the 1542 Mount Douglas Cross Road item recently was before Council where Council was asked to delay the demolition permit so that the Foundation could discuss with the owners how to save the house yet still make a profit. They may be able to move the house and put in a new basement. The decision to delay the permit for 60 days was unanimous and it was noted that this was not a light decision.

The Planner expressed appreciation for the work of the Saanich Heritage Foundation, as without them, many houses would not be saved. She noted that most development applications are referred to community associations, however heritage demolition requests are not.

Report from Canada 150 Ambassadors

The following was noted:

- The working group and staff have been working together on promoting ideas and meeting various groups who would like to participate in Canada 150 events.
- The Saanich website has a Canada 150 page that lists upcoming events and provides opportunity for organizations to place an event on the events calendar.
- This will be a year-long promotion and not just for July 1st. The four Canada 150 themes are: youth, environment, reconciliation and diversity.
- The Ambassadors will be present at the Music in the Park events; volunteers are always appreciated.
- An upcoming project, “Grateful for Saanich”, will be advertised via social media (Facebook/Instagram/Twitter).

Committee members expressed appreciation to the Ambassadors for their work; letter of appreciation to be sent to Councillor Sanders.

ARTS

Mural proposal at Seaton tunnel

The Planner and Police Constable introduced themselves and provided information about a proposed mural at the Seaton pedestrian tunnel. The Planner described the approval process for murals and noted the Sign and the Unsightly Premises Bylaws are used to regulate murals. The following was noted:

- The Seaton tunnel area is a high tagging area. This area, which cuts off the Galloping Goose near the Trans-Canada Highway, is not well taken care of.
- The Native Friendship Centre is located nearby and were approached about participating in a mural project. Jesse Campbell (artist) who has a number of murals throughout Victoria, would mentor three youth artists on a mural project about reconciliation, and what it means to each artist.
- A sample ‘vision’ was provided to committee members.
- The Civil Forfeiture office gave an \$8,600 grant for the project. The work must be completed by January next year. Other funding was received from youth community programs and the Native Friendship Centre. Work will be covered by WCB and scaffolding use training will be provided.
- Youth are to be interviewed and each artist’s theme must flow together.
- The final work will be covered in a vandalism-resistant coating, although it is hoped that taggers will be respectful and not vandalize the work. Police will talk to known taggers.
- Shrubbery will also be trimmed and the area will generally be cleaned up.
- The Native Friendship Centre will make the community aware of the project; they have a good relationship with the neighbourhood. This project will not impede traffic in any way.
- It would be nice to have a plaque for the project but the budget may not allow for this.
- It is hoped that work can begin on July 1st. Approval from Council will be needed before the project is made public. No funding is being requested of Council.

Motion: MOVED by M. Sealey and Seconded by L. Rathkelly, “That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee fully supports the proposed Seaton Splash Mural Project, and recommends approval of the project when it is presented to Council.”

CARRIED

Public Art Policy Review

The Planner circulated a summary of the Saanich Public Art program, which lists the most recent public art installations in the municipality. A discussion occurred and the following was noted:

- There are older pieces of artwork in the municipality that are not yet included on the inventory.
- The funding structure for public art was described. There is approximately \$130,000 in the fund from the (above ground) municipal capital budget.
- The public art jury process was described; the ACH is kept apprised of the status of projects going through the process.
- Suggestion was made that the ‘Bridging Perspectives’ piece needs more of its story to be displayed; it would be great to have interactive capability for artwork in the municipality.
- The Saanich GIS could show public art areas. Trail maps could also show public art.
- Placemaking is important in the Local Area Plans; this committee could give advice on good placemaking areas.

Arts updates

- The totem at Saanich Commonwealth Place needs restoring. The artist, Roy Henry Vickers, may support restoring it but also suggested that it may be time to lay it to rest. It was suggested that perhaps other materials could be used to create a totem to permanently replace the existing one. The Planner needs to write a report on options to either restore, remove or replace the totem. It is important to be respectful of the First Nations culture, the artist’s wishes, and also the general community.
- Limelight Youth Arts Expo just wrapped up, it was another successful event.
- A social responsibility exhibit is upcoming; a Phyllis Serota exhibit will occur in June.

Staff are working with the Gorge Tillicum Community Association on Canada Day picnic related activities. It was noted that Gorge on Art used to be a separate event, but has been combined with the Canada Day activities.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:22 am.

Councillor Brice, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary