

MINUTES
ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 2
Thursday, November 23, 2017 at 9:30 am

Present: Councillor Brice (Chair), Lyris Agarat, John Crawford, Ken Johnson, Anne Lansdell, Leanna Rathkelly, Michele Sealey, Ned Taylor (non-voting youth liaison)

Staff: Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation Services; Evelyn Wolfe, Archivist; Jane Evans, Planner, Community Planning; Tania Douglas, Senior Committee Clerk

Regrets: Katherine Whitworth, Stephanie Vieille

Guests: Barry Loucks, Ed Polinsky, Earl Hannan

Minutes

MOVED by J. Crawford and Seconded by M. Sealey: "That the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held October 26, 2017, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair noted that this is the last meeting of the year and advised that committee members A. Lansdell, S. Vieille and K. Whitworth are stepping down. A call for committee members has been advertised and hopefully new members will be appointed to the committee in December.

PROPOSAL FOR HERITAGE DESIGNATION OF GLENDENNING ROAD

The Planner introduced B. Loucks, E. Polinsky and E. Hannan who were present to speak to their proposal to designate Glendenning Road as heritage. The Planner noted that there are no designated roads in Saanich, but there are other communities that recognize heritage scenic roads. There was a past study and proposal to create a heritage conservation area along West Saanich Road but this would recognize the area, not the road specifically. There is no tool in current legislation to recognize roads and characteristics.

The guests proceeded to present information and a history of the area for committee members and the following was noted:

- Years ago Mayor Leonard started an initiative to recognize Blenkinsop Road as heritage.
- They are looking for support and a recommendation that the heritage register be amended to recognize Glendenning Road as they would like to protect the ambience, trees and history of the road.
- About 10 years ago the idea to designate the road was suggested. Nineteen owners of 12 properties were in favour of this but it was not acted upon. This was revived in 2015 after changes in the road were proposed by Saanich.
- The majority of residents on the road would like to preserve the relaxing rural appearance and ambience of the road.
- The road is the nicest entrance to Mount Douglas Park and is outside the Urban Containment Boundary.
- The road also is a popular route that connects the Lochside and San Juan trails. The trail is used by pedestrian and equestrian communities.
- A mapping and tree inventory was done years ago, there are about 200 trees (the majority being Garry oak, Douglas fir, Grand fir) along the road.

- This year, a survey of the 20 properties on the road indicated 13 in favour of designation, 2 opposed, 2 absentee landlords (no response), 2 undecided, and 1 neutral.
- There is support from the Blenkinsop Valley Community Association, the Gordon Head Residents' Association, Friends of Mount Doug Park, and the Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition.

A discussion occurred and committee members asked staff some questions. The following comments were noted:

- There is no protection of the roadway if it is just recognized.
- The trail that runs parallel to the road is unnamed and is part of the right-of-way.
- There are posts at the corner of Mount Doug Park and the road that are maintained by the Parks department. They also do some branch maintenance in the area.
- The street is not within the Urban Containment Boundary so designation would not affect future subdivision requests. It is also outside of the sewer service area.
- The best place to study this request would be when the Local Area Plan is reviewed.
- A statement of significance is required when adding anything to the heritage registry.
- Staff have a list of criteria for heritage designation which would be the same for items on the registry. Further information on the history of the property is also needed.
- A public input process would have to occur with the community.

The Planner described the Engineering department's role in overseeing road treatment such as curbs, gutters, sidewalks, etc. She suggested that instead of heritage designation, perhaps identifying the road as having heritage scenic value by placing it on the heritage register would be appropriate.

In response to comments about trees on the road, the Senior Manager of Recreation Services spoke about the differences between protected and significant trees. She also noted that there is no mechanism in legislation to designate a road as heritage. There are many different priorities for the Planning department and procedurally it will take time to move forward. It was noted that the process for placing an item on the Heritage Register is different than the planning process for the Local Area Plan updates.

Motion: MOVED by K. Johnson and Seconded by A. Lansdell, "That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee receive the report 'Heritage Road Designation Application Glendenning Road, Saanich' for information."
CARRIED

Motion: MOVED by L. Rathkelly and Seconded by M. Sealey, "That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee recommends that the report entitled, "Heritage Road Designation Application Glendenning Road, Saanich' be forwarded to the Planning department to be considered for possible inclusion in the Saanich Heritage Register."
CARRIED

Motion: MOVED by J. Crawford and Seconded by L. Agarat, "That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee recommends that the historical and natural value of Glendenning Road be considered during the upcoming Gordon Head Local Area Plan update."
CARRIED

ARCHIVES

The Archivist was present to provide an update on the activities of the department. She noted that:

- There is an exhibit at the Hall reception until November 27, which shows the local support the WWII war effort. One part of the display are Pilot Officer Leslie Kellow's letters home to his family on Burnside Road which was donated by the family.
- Two fall history talks took place; a presentation on Street of Unfinished Dreams by Valerie Green was not well attended because there was a problem with the new online registration system. Bart Armstrong talked about Local Heroes of WWI and this was better attended as the registration problem has been worked on.
- The Ivan Sayers Fashion Event was very well attended, with 112 tickets sold. The only thing that needed improvements was the intermission efficiency. There was not enough space to get everyone their coffee/goodies in good time so the intermission stretched from 15 minutes to 30 minutes. It was noted that this event created revenue which will roll over into next year's budget.

HERITAGE

Foundation Report

Mr. Johnson reported that:

- Hall House/Stranton Lodge (Knockan Hill Park) will undergo a kitchen renovation this winter, to the cost of about \$15,000.
- There is no new news about the demolition request for 1525 Mount Douglas Road. The applicant was open to moving or lifting the house.
- The Hallmark Society recently held a memorial event for Reena Virk at Craigflower Schoolhouse which was very well attended.
- Hallmark Society is also hosting webinars about revitalization agreements, and what happens when you designate your house as heritage.

Canada 150 Ambassador's report

It was reported that Councillor Sanders is looking at the differences between having a stone or concrete monument for the time capsule. They are looking at installing this in the spring. The contents of the capsule will include postcards which will have one side for people to write what they are grateful for, and on the other side, what their hopes are for the future of Saanich.

ARTS

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services reported that:

- It is very busy at the Arts Centre with many seasonal holiday workshops running.
- New displays are coming to the main gallery and the Inter-Cultural Association will have a display "I've not always been Canadian."
- Winter/spring registration will start on November 29th.
- Funding was received for a BCRPA pilot project for an after school program "Creative Pathways".

COMMITTEE 2018 WORKPLAN AND GOALS

The Strategic Planning process review is ongoing and the Terms of Reference mandate is for committee members to review and provide feedback on the Strategic Plan. It was noted that the Comprehensive Arts Policy is a Planning document and the Arts and Culture Strategy is a Parks and Recreation document.

Committee discussed ideas to celebrate/discuss/work toward and the following was noted:

- Committee could look at celebrating Heritage Day on February 19th.
- Saanich's incorporation date of March 1, 1906 could be recognized.
- End of World War I (100th anniversary) November 2018 could be recognized.
- Pearkes 50th Anniversary could be recognized.

- The 100th anniversary of the Observatory will be in 2018.
- Conduct a tour of the Archives.
- Heritage tours of parks like Falaise and Playfair could be worthwhile.
- A joint meeting with the Saanich Heritage Foundation could occur.
- Receive a presentation from Esquimalt Community Arts Council.
- Meetings could occasionally be held at the Craigflower Schoolhouse.
- Committee may be able to provide input on interpretive signs.
- Committee could look at ideas to promote cultural aspects of the community.
- There is a Planning presentation on cultural demographics committee could receive.
- Links with other public bodies/agencies that focus on arts/culture/heritage could be strengthened.
- Committee members should lead by example by attending events and informing people about events.
- Communication needs to be better; need to promote better. Question was raised are we promoting enough awareness for arts and heritage issues.
- The gifts of artwork at the Arts Awards awards was well received; awards are given once a Council term.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 am and the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 25, 2018.

Councillor Brice, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary