

MINUTES
ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room No. 2
Thursday, June 20, 2019 at 4:00 pm

Present: Councillor Plant (Chair), Irene Corman, John Ellis, Jim Hesser, Leanna Rathkelly, Michele Sealey, Kate Sykes-Waller, Christine Willes,

Staff: Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation Services; Brenda Weatherston, Community Arts Specialist; Angila Bains, Manager, Legislative Services; Tania Douglas, Senior Committee Clerk

Regrets: Sean Burns, Teri VanWell (SD63 non-voting liaison)

Minutes

MOVED by K. Sykes-Waller and Seconded by J. Hesser: "That the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held May 16, 2019, be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair thanked members for attending tonight and noted that the remainder of meetings this year will start at 6:00 pm to accommodate his work schedule. The Chair expressed appreciation to staff and to the policy working group for their work and encouraged all members to get out this summer and enjoy the arts and culture in the region. Lastly, the Chair advised that committee members will receive a presentation proposing a film studio complex in Saanich in September.

STAFF UPDATES

Archives

Committee members referenced the June 20, 2019 archives update, and the majority of committee members expressed an interest in touring the Archives.

A request was made to follow-up on the suggestion that Archives advertise for donations of non-european descent. It was pointed out that the Archivist previously acknowledged there are under-represented groups and that space and resources are an issue.

The Senior Manager, Recreation Services advised that Archives has received the committee's suggestion to advertise and there is no mechanism/obligation for Archives to report back to this group. Advertising is part of operations and only Council can direct staff on operational matters. The Saanich Archivists' are the subject matter experts and are following the protocols prescribed to them.

The Chair referred to the Committee mandate and suggested that the Archivist be asked if there is anything to report regarding donations. Committee could make a motion to Council eventually if they feel it is necessary.

Recreation

The Community Arts Specialist provided information about upcoming events at the Arts Centre at Cedar Hill and at Saanich Municipal Hall. The following was noted:

- Twenty-three artists will participate in Gorge on Art on Canada Day. Musicians from the conservatory will also attend.
- This is the 10th anniversary of Culture Days and a weekend of arts and culture activities has been coordinated to take place at Cedar Hill September 27-29, 2019.
- A request for nomination of an ACH member to be part of the 2020 Exhibitions Committee was made. A memo dated June 13, 2019 was circulated in this regard. Previously, members L. Rathkelly and K. Sykes-Waller were part of this committee.

Committee discussion occurred and the following was noted:

- The process on selecting an Exhibitions Committee member was described. It is preferred that members have a background and/or experience in visual arts and past involvement with exhibitions or art juries.
- The upcoming Culture Days weekend includes a very broad range of artists. It is not only for performance arts; this is a participatory event (eg: sing-along and dance-along events, a musical petting zoo).
- There is no specific film component at Culture Days. Limelight Youth Artists Exhibition includes a film component. There could be a screening at Culture Days but that is not interactive.
- There is limited space at Culture Days but business and private groups (eg. music stores) could be invited.
- I. Corman volunteered to sit on the exhibitions committee. It was noted that any interested members can put their name forward to the Community Arts Specialist.

ARTS AWARDS

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services referenced their June 13, 2019 report, and noted that this scale of event is not in the 2019 work plan or budget. If committee members would like to make a presentation this year, there is the option of awarding a Lifetime Achievement Award should the committee agree on an individual.

A discussion occurred and it was noted that the awards are broad and inclusive. Advertising is done via committee members' distributing flyers, through social media, the Saanich website, and email. In 2016, Black Press was a media sponsor of the awards.

Motion: MOVED by M. Sealey and Seconded by J. Ellis, "The Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee request that:

- 1. Council include the presentation of the Saanich Arts, Culture and Heritage Awards in the 2020 Municipal Budget;**
- 2. If Saanich Council includes the Saanich Arts, Culture and Heritage Awards in its 2020 budget the awards would be presented during Culture Days, September 25-27, 2020; and,**
- 3. The Saanich Arts Culture and Heritage Awards be presented every two years."**

CARRIED

Committee consensus was that the awards occurring every two years is not too frequent and there is a large pool of individuals and organizations to draw from. The Chair encouraged committee members to attend the Council meeting when this item is considered. The Manager of Legislative Services advised that this recommendation would likely be placed on the July 15, 2019 Council agenda.

REPORT FROM WORKING GROUP

A discussion occurred about the proposed working group's report dated June 10, 2019, which provides a proposed work plan. It was suggested that the materials provided to members at the beginning of the term caused members to feel disoriented.

Clarification on the documents was given: the Saanich Arts and Culture Strategy is the correct name for the document referenced as the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Strategic Plan.

The Chair explained the correct format and information to include in future reports. In reply to a request the Senior Manager of Recreation Services will request budget information from the Planning department.

Motion: MOVED by C. Willes and Seconded by K. Sykes-Waller, "That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee receives the report from the Working Group dated June 10, 2019, and approves the work plan as presented."

CARRIED

REVIEW OF PRESENTATION FROM OAK BAY ARTS LAUREATE (PUBLIC ART)

Committee discussed the presentation that was received last month from Barbara Adams and the following was noted:

- Ms. Adams gave a very informative presentation. Saanich is very different than Oak Bay and is further along in some ways in terms of public art.
- One member provided a description of the Arts Laureate position in Whistler and the connection between the arts and business communities in the region. She noted that it was important to the people there to have art that is authentic to the area.
- The Oak Bay example is more of a procurement of public art.
- Public art is about involving the community and enhancing public space. It would be good to think about places that have incredible public art and then think about something similar for Saanich.
- It is important to know exactly what the goal would be. A description of public art in Saanich's Policy was given; it is about physical art and not performance arts.
- The CRD website lists about 20 pieces of art in the District of Saanich.

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services noted Saanich is lucky to have many staff members that support the arts in the municipality, and has a public art policy as a guide. Funds are allocated annually into maintaining and purchasing art, and there is the 1% amenity contribution received from new developments

The Community Arts Specialist noted that the Oak Bay model is different as the focus is on temporary art in public spaces and they provide an honorarium to the artists, whereas Saanich purchases its art. She noted that an item from Canada 150 is to explore temporary art programs in Saanich. This could be annual or bi-annual, and the Planning department is to look into this.

The Chair suggested maybe unveiling one piece of public art per year would be a good goal and noted development amenities are of particular interest to him. More discussion on this topic would be good, anything going to Council would be placed in the Strategic Plan and budget.

Consensus was that members will think about public art and possibly visit other communities over the summer for public art ideas. This item will be further discussed in the fall. Staff from the Planning department will be asked to provide information.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm. The next meeting is Thursday, September 19, 2019.

Councillor Plant, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary