

MINUTES
ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Committee Room 2, Saanich Municipal Hall
Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Councillor Nathalie Chambers (Chair), Kimberly Van Nieuvenhuysse, Nik White, Jordan Watters, Sonia Nicholson, Jasmindra Jawandra, James Hesser

Staff: Brenda Weatherston, Programmer, Parks; Cristina Caravaca, Senior Manager, Community Services; Silvia Exposito, Planner, Community Planning; Evelyn Wolfe, Archivist; Kirsten Brazier, Committee Clerk; Megan MacDonald, Senior Committee Clerk.

Regrets: Teri VanWell, Jordan Macdougall, Jordan Watters.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by J. Jawandra and Seconded by K. Van Nieuvenhuysse: “That the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held March 23, 2022 be adopted as circulated.”

CARRIED

CHAIRS REMARKS

The chair welcomed the committee and provided an overview of the meeting.

- COP 15 took place in December in Montreal. The Global Biodiversity Strategy was launched.
- [Culture, Heritage, Biodiversity and Climate Change: Spotlight on COP15 — Climate Heritage Network](#)

REPORT ON MURAL PROGRAM

Staff provided a report on the 2022 mural program and discussed the request put forward for Council’s consideration for the 2023 budget.

- The Community Canvas Mural Project was piloted last year.
- Funding for Phase One was provided through a one-time resource request to the 2022 budget.
- Three murals were installed in Saanich Parks; Beckwith Park, Cedar Hill Park and Layritz Park.
- The Second Phase consists of 2 streams; 1) community led murals and 2) to update the existing process for existing businesses and private property owners. Funding for this phase would come through a 2023 funding request.
- A Community Mural Grant would be established.
 - Stream A: Community groups and non-profits could apply for matching funding.
 - Stream B: Update and streamline the existing process for business and privately led murals.
- Both streams would be supported by new mural guidelines and an artist directory they could access.

- Existing staff would provide direction and support to the program. Staff would report back to this committee and Council.
- A resource request of \$50,000 will be considered with the 2023 budget, which includes an additional \$5,000 for the development of the grant program

Committee Discussion

- Potentially 3 to 6 mural projects per year could be achieved going forward. It is recommended for the program to be flexible with the number of murals.
- Staff confirmed that one of the outcomes of the program to be flexible and attract a variety of artists. It is visioned as a matching program with some contribution from community (In-kind or dollar contribution).
- A member asked if murals would be as an option for amenity contribution from developers. The current Mural Program definition does not yet consider murals for amenity contribution.
- Committee members offered commendations to staff on their work on this pilot.
- It was suggested that staff may want to investigate Federal funding to extend the work of the program.
- Staff noted that an anti-graffiti coating has been applied to the murals. These are the kinds of costs that could be integrated into the budget for murals going forward.
- Staff will update the committee on whether the request is successful.
- A committee member asked if staff would consider sending an Arts and Culture package to local community associations to participate in and contribute to the mural program. Part of the engagement of the full program will be to do outreach with community groups.

The following statement was given: “The Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee firmly supports this initiative and hopes that council will give this serious consideration. This committee supports it as an ongoing initiative. For a nominal investment it supports a large social, arts and cultural return.”

REVIEW OF LAST TERM’S SUCCESSES

- The colouring book and the heritage passports were put forward through ACH. Feedback from the public and media was complimentary. The hope is that a committee member might want to use the templates to make new versions of the pages and passports. This could be repurposed for other areas (arts tour, public art, use for other cultural groups). If the survey of public art in Saanich were to be inventoried, it could be a good time to use this format in other areas.
- There could be continued use of colouring books in many program areas. Printing the books would make it more accessible to residents.
- A suggestion for future development of the colouring book is to find a better picture conversion tool to make the colouring pages.

MOVED by N. White and K. Van Nieuvenhuysen: “That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee after the 2023 budget, review and build on the Committee’s previous successes and programs; including looking at options to expand upon work carried out for the heritage passport, walking tours and heritage colouring books and other initiatives based on the 2023 budget.”

CARRIED

- The ACH Awards ceremony had a good turnout and Council chambers was full. There was a diverse turnout, and it was a positive event for the community.
- Council has passed a resolution for the ACH awards to take place every second year. With the new committee TOR’s we will wait to see how this develops.
- With the awards taking place every two years, it was noted that is important to get awareness and nominations out to the community earlier.
- Heritage BC awards are now open in a number of categories. Nominations close February 20th.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

A roundtable discussion led by the chair took place and the following was noted:

- Cultural Voices from Arts and Heritage at COP 27. Free online registration is available. This event takes place February 11th, 2023.

ACH Visioning

- Member Sonia Nicholson is happy to continue to act as a resource as she transitions from being a member of this committee.
- Members questioned if any work on visioning now would be impacted by the change in committees that is upcoming.
- The Chair stated that committee will move forward with an increased accessibility component.
- Staff clarified that applications for appointment to the new committees will be sent out shortly.

MOVED by N. White and Seconded by S. Nicholson: “That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee add an agenda item to the February 22, 2023 meeting to discuss the configuration and Terms of Reference of the new committee.”

CARRIED

Cristina Caravaca, Senior Manager, Community Services provided an overview of the programming report that was attached to the agenda package.

A discussion took place on the Dark Skies article that was included in the agenda package.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is Wednesday, February 22, 2023.

Councillor Chambers, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary