

**MINUTES OF THE
SAANICH HERITAGE FOUNDATION MEETING
HELD VIA REMOTE MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2022 AT 5:30 P.M**

Present: Veronica McEllister, President; Sonia Nicholson, Vice President; Art Joyce, Treasurer; Sarah Anderson; Charlotte Clar; and Sheila Colwill

Regrets: James Thomson; and Councillor Karen Harper

Guests: None

Staff: Shane Laye, Manager, Municipal Facilities Division; Silvia Exposito, Planner (Community Planning); and Shirley Leggett, Secretary

Minutes: MOVED by S. Nicholson and Seconded by C. Clar: "That the Minutes of the January 11, 2021, Regular Meeting be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

MUNICIPAL HALL – PROPOSED ENHANCEMENTS TO SECURITY MEASURES THROUGHOUT THE HALL (MANAGER, MUNICIPAL FACILITIES DIVISION)

The Manager of Municipal Facilities was in attendance at the meeting and provided an update to his November overview of the proposed plans to address the security measures throughout the Municipal Hall.

The following was noted:

- Originally on the second floor they were proposing to create a removable barrier around two sides of the stairwell by clamping glass panels to the railings; because of potential stability issues with that method, they are now planning to use stainless steel stand-offs (button anchors) mounted on the concrete to hold the 2.134 metre high tempered laminated glass.
- Staff feel that it's an elegant and clean solution.

Foundation members agreed that it was a necessary design change and had no issues with it.

The Manager, Municipal Facilities Division, left the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

3910 CEDAR HILL ROAD – CEDAR HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL (REGISTERED) – PROPOSED RE-DEVELOPMENT OF SITE

At the January meeting, the Manager of Community Planning, and proponents from KMBR Architects Planners Inc., provided an overview regarding the School District's proposal to re-develop the site at 3910 Cedar Hill Road in order to construct a seismic replacement for the current Cedar Hill Middle School (built in 1931 as Mount Douglas Secondary School until 1971 when it became Cedar Hill Junior School and then Cedar Hill Middle School).

Foundation members were asked to provide feedback regarding the potential removal of this building from the Saanich Heritage Register.

After much discussion, the President asked the architects from KMBR to provide the Building

Condition Assessment for Cedar Hill School so that Foundation members could review it and prepare their response.

In response to feedback from Foundation members, a draft letter dated January 19, 2022 to the Manger of Community Planning and to the Planner (Community Planning) was prepared, and it stated:

“Prior to making a final decision regarding the building, the Foundation would like a Professional Heritage Consultant from an independent third party, review the 1931 portion of the site and to report the current state of its Heritage Value.”

The Planner, Community Planning, stated:

- She has learned that a heritage consultant (Katie Cummer) has been retained and will be evaluating the historical assets of the building in its current state - she will be contacting her.
- She would also like to know their rationale for removing the structure from the Heritage Register.

The President stated:

- It was School District 61 who hired Katie Cummer, CHC, Cummer Heritage Consulting, to prepare the report on the building.
- When she was having a tour of the school, she saw Ms. Cummer taking pictures and she pointed out a beautiful wooden bench in the principal's office that should be retained.

The Vice President stated:

- She and the President have consulted with the Mount Douglas Secondary School Alumni Association (MDSS) and they are in agreement that the heritage value should be reviewed.
- There are many folks in Victoria and Saanich who belong to the MDSS that are extremely distressed that their former school will be torn down without a valid reason to maintain the original historic structure.
- The MDSS is very excited about the idea of an interpretive sign and there was also talk about holding some kind of an event for past and present students.

MOVED BY S. Colwill and Seconded by S. Nicholson: “That the letter from the Saanich Heritage Foundation dated January 19, 2022 regarding the proposed re-development of 3910 Cedar Hill Road (Cedar Hill Middle School), be forwarded to the Manager of Community Planning and to the Planner (Community Planning).”

CARRIED

1248 BURNSIDE ROAD WEST (STRANTON LODGE) - UPDATE

The President stated:

- She is waiting for a response from Twin Oaks Projects Ltd. with a date on when they can start the window restoration work which was started last summer.

4139 LAMBRICK WAY (DODD HOUSE) – UPDATE

S. Colwill stated:

- She does not have anything new to report.

TREASURER’S REPORT – UPDATE

The Treasurer provided the following balances as of January 26, 2022:

Operating Account:	\$3,697.05	
Grant Account:	\$61,385.41	GIC: \$20,810.06 (due April 4, 2022) GIC: \$13,489.04 (due May 7, 2022)
Hall House Account:	\$6,382.54	GIC: \$24,302.24 (due June 12, 2022) GIC: \$ 5,254.91 (due Nov. 1, 2021)
Dodd House Account:	\$38,571.49	GIC: \$21,604.34 (due Oct. 4, 2022) GIC: \$10,509.80 (due Nov. 1, 2021)

MOVED by A. Joyce and Seconded by S. Colwill: "That the Treasurer's report be received for information."

CARRIED

SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATES

C. Clar stated:

- She's posting on various architects with pictures of some of the buildings they designed in Saanich.
- The posts on the history of the commercial building at the corner of Quadra and Tattersall have been well received with more than 9,000 views.
- She's also continuing to post on the architectural alphabet.

The President stated:

- The Victoria Heritage Foundation has copied some of Charlotte's posts.
- She and the Vice President are working on a feature story pertaining to the Med Grill in Royal Oak which used to be the original Municipal Hall.

ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH – UPDATE

The Vice President stated:

- The Uvic student that is volunteering her time is putting together an article and a timeline of the history of the building at the corner of Quadra Street and Tattersall Road which ties in with our social media posts.

UPDATES FROM THE ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ACH)

The Vice President and liaison to the ACH stated:

- The committee has a number of new members with various backgrounds and interests so everyone is still getting acquainted.
- There was a presentation from community planning on the proposed updates to Saanich's Mural Program which touched on the definition of murals in Saanich, criteria, jury process, eligibility and selection of artists.
- The next ACH meeting is February 23rd.

FOR INFORMATION

HERITAGE BC – HERITAGE WEEK 2022 – FEBRUARY 21ST TO 27TH

Information from Heritage BC promoting Heritage Week throughout the province with posters, proclamations, and themed events; there is also free webinars.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

NEXT MEETING

The next Regular meeting of the Saanich Heritage Foundation will be held **via remote meeting on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. with the Annual General Meeting to follow.**

..... CHAIRPERSON