



MINUTES

**NANAIMO COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION (NCHC)
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2014-JAN-08 AT 7:00 PM
BOARD ROOM, SERVICE & RESOURCE CENTRE (411 DUNSMUIR STREET)**

Members Present: Diane Brennan, Chair
Bill Gard
Loyd Sherry
Christine Meutzner
Jill Stannard
John Hofman
Charlene Riches
Loyd Sherry

Members Absent: Kerrie Low
John Manning

Staff Present: Suzanne Samborski, Senior Manager of Culture & Heritage
Bob Kuhn, Manager of Culture & Heritage
Chris Sholberg, Culture & Heritage Planner
Rebecca Tubbs, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order

Chair D. Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda & Late Items

The agenda was approved as presented with the addition of the following late items:

- a) National Historic Site Status for Pacific Biological Station – Plaque Installation – Update.
For information. The commemorative plaque has not yet been installed.
- b) South Downtown Waterfront Initiative – Final Presentation to Community (2014-JAN-11).
For information. A final report on the South Downtown Waterfront initiative will be presented to the public at the Nanaimo Port Theatre. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, visit www.southdowntownwaterfront.ca.
- c) Funding Request for Black History Month from Nanaimo African Heritage Society.
The Commission received the information but made no funding commitment.

3. Adoption of Minutes (2013-DEC-04)

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes from 2013-DEC-04 be adopted as presented.
The motion was carried.

4. Correspondence, Periodicals, & Newsletters

None.

5. New Business

- a) Corporate Restructuring (T. Swabey).
D. Brennan noted that T. Swabey is unable to attend this month's meeting to provide information on the corporate restructuring, but can attend in future if the Commission feels this is needed.

b) A Cultural Plan for a Creative Nanaimo (S. Samborski & B. Kuhn).

D. Brennan welcomed S. Samborski, Senior Manager, and B. Kuhn, Manager, of the newly created Culture & Heritage Department. The Cultural Plan outlines a vision and many strategic actions and recommendations in four key areas (the Creative Sector; the Creative Economy; Connectivity; Cultural Spaces and Places). The creation of a Culture & Heritage Department helps to align the corporate structure with the strategic plan's four pillars of sustainability; economic health, environmental responsibility, social equity and cultural vitality. S. Samborski introduced members of the new department, and noted some of the main reasons for the merge, including:

- To strengthen and raise the profile of both culture and heritage
- To reduce overlap and create cohesion
- To work on a complementary vision and focus
- To align the department structure with the four pillars of the corporate strategic plan

In addition to a new department, staff would like to create a group of "culture managers" to act as a technical advisory group. As well, staff is proposing to merge the Heritage Commission and the Cultural Committee, subject to Council approval. Staff will consider holding a joint meeting in the spring to inform each group of what the other is doing. In the mean time, the newly created department has arranged for some upcoming events:

Cultural Plan Open Houses

- January 22 at Port Place Mall, from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm.
- January 25 at the Port Theatre, from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm.

Culture & Heritage Department Meet & Greet

- January 29 at the Nanaimo Art Gallery, from 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm.

The Commission discussed the organizational changes and emphasized the need to build community passion for culture and heritage through the new department. D. Brennan thanked S. Samborski and B. Kuhn for attending the meeting before they left at 7:42 pm.

6. Ongoing Business

a) Heritage Week (2014-FEB-17 to 23) Theme: Heritage Afloat.

Heritage Summit (2014-FEB-19) – Options for topics and keynote speakers.

This year's provincial heritage week theme is heritage afloat. Based on the discussion at the last meeting, staff has continued to inquire about potential keynote speakers and topics. Mr. Parker Williams, local resident, historian and recipient of the 2009 John Thomson Award is available to provide a presentation on Nanaimo's historic ships and shipwrecks. In addition to the usual groups, invites will be extended to the Cultural Committee.

b) Manson Store / House (236-240 Haliburton Street) Demo Order – Status.

For information. Since the last meeting, Council provided the owner of this building with a 30 day extension to the demo order. Due to structural issues, action must be taken by the owner by the end of January or the City will proceed with the required demo.

c) Woodward / Harrison Residence (215 Newcastle Avenue) – Status.

Although in poor condition, the building is still deemed structurally sound by the Fire Department. Due to this status, the Commission discussed whether the recommendation to remove the building from the City's Heritage Register should still stand.

It was moved and seconded that no further action be taken on the Woodward / Harrison Residence (215 Newcastle Avenue) at this time to recommend Council remove the building from the Heritage Register. The motion was carried.

7. Committee Reports

- a) Nanaimo Community Archives Society:
C. Meutzner had no report.
- b) Nanaimo District and Museum:
J. Manning was not in attendance.
- c) Design Advisory Panel:
C. Riches had no report.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for **2014-FEB-05 at 5:15 pm** in the Board Room of the Service and Resource Centre (411 Dunsmuir Street).

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.

APPROVED

Chair

Date