



MINUTES

NANAIMO COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION (NCHC)
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2013-OCT-02 AT 5:00 PM
BOARD ROOM, SERVICE & RESOURCE CENTRE (411 DUNSMUIR STREET)

Members Present:	Diane Brennan, Chair Bill Gard Kerrie Low John Manning	Jill Stannard John Hofman Loyd Sherry
Guests Present:	Terry Smith	
Members Absent:	Charlene Riches	Christine Meutzner
Staff Present:	Chris Sholberg, Heritage Planner	Rebecca Tubbs, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order

Chair D. Brennan called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda & Late Items

The agenda was approved as presented.

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

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

4. Budget Review

5. Correspondence, Periodicals, & Newsletters

a) E&N Train Station – Heritage BC Award of Honor Recipient

For information. Nominated by C. Sholberg, the E&N Train Station has been awarded with the Heritage BC Award of Honor. The award will be received by the Island Corridor Foundation, Tectonica Management and the Young Professionals of Nanaimo, on 2013-OCT-18 at the Heritage BC Annual Conference. C. Sholberg will attend the conference.

The above correspondence was received as presented.

6. New Business

a) Heritage BC Annual Conference (Program & Heritage BC Business Model)

As noted in Item 5a), C. Sholberg will attend this event on behalf of the City and asked if any members were interested in attending on behalf of the Commission. An agenda was distributed to members via email prior to the meeting. No members volunteered to attend.

b) Plaque to Mark the 100th Anniversary of War Measures Act

C. Sholberg noted that the City has been approached by the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association (UCCLA) requesting our participation to mark the 100th anniversary of the War Measures Act. Across Canada, 100 plaques will be installed in 2014 to recognize the violation of civil liberties that occurred under the War Measures Act and the consequent creation of internment camp (including one in Nanaimo).

In the 90s, a plaque was donated to the City and installed by the Newcastle channel seawall to recognize the internment camp in Nanaimo in the 1910s. Based on a recent review of the plaque location, it was determined that a location with higher visibility should be considered. The new plaque presents an opportunity to reconsider the existing location as well as determine how to best display the two plaques (old and new) together.

Committee Comments

- Design and install the plaque in a cohesive manner (avoid a hodgepodge of information and standalone plaques). Instead of a block, install the plaques on a cairn. Look into different design options that are more visually appealing than the current.
- The internment camp contained more than just Ukrainians. On the new display, clarify that the internment camp contained other ethnic groups.
- Locate the updated cairn close to the walkway for maximum visibility and away from the dumpsters and portable latrine.

Assuming Council approves placement of the new plaque, staff will develop a plan for the redesign and relocation of the display. All design decisions will be continued with the UCCLA before being finalized.

7. Ongoing Business

a) Harmac Arboretum Tour (2013-OCT-16 at 5:00 pm)

For information. As requested at the last meeting, staff has organized a tour of the arboretum. Members interested in attending the tour can meet on site or in the lobby of the Service & Resource Centre (411 Dunsmuir) at 5:00 pm.

b) Heritage Tax Exemption Program Assessment – Update

For information. Staff provided Commission members with a copy of the report that was sent to the 2013-SEP-23 Council meeting. The report contained the following NCHC recommendation: *“that the Heritage Commission uses Parks Canada’s “Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada” when evaluating heritage building tax exemption applications and recommend that Council formally adopt these standards and guidelines as a system for evaluating the supportability of alterations to heritage buildings in the future.”*

The recommendation was approved. The Commission will now use the guidelines when evaluating alterations to heritage buildings (<http://www.historicplaces.ca/en/pages/standards-normes.aspx>). Otherwise, the program will remain as is. Staff will use the newly adopted guidelines to create an evaluation matrix for members to use when evaluating tax exemption applications presented to them.

Committee Comments

- J. Manning finds it difficult to take into account the project without taking into consideration the cost factor.
- D. Brennan expects that the Commission would make their recommendation on the heritage value of the project and adherence to the National Standards and Guidelines. Staff could make a different recommendation. Staff will be using a more stringent method for calculating eligible years of tax exemption for each project.

It was suggested that the Commission also review the list of buildings located within the Heritage Conservation Area to consider whether some of the more marginally rated buildings should remain on the tax exemption eligibility list. Staff will provide a short list for consideration at an upcoming meeting.

c) 2013 Heritage Paint Out/Shoot Out (2013-SEP-15) – Debrief

The event was held as schedule with a couple of Commission members in attendance. Although the weather did not cooperate, it stayed dry enough for the artists to complete their work. Participation was slightly down from last year.

Committee Comments

- Next year, hold the event during Bathtub Weekend or another special downtown community event. Make sure that the event is not held during a weekend which other island town art competitions are being held.
- Next year, look at partnering with other groups (DNBIA, multicultural society high schools, VIU students) to help promote the event, recruit artists, and provide financial support (then increase prize money amounts).
- Next year, place more focus on painting and less on photography.

8. Committee Reports

a) Snuneymuxw First Nation

C. Sholberg noted that information will continue to be forwarded to SFN as per SFN's request, until a new representative has been put forward.

b) Nanaimo Community Archives Society

C. Meutzner noted a recent interest in various totem poles around town. Their YouTube traffic has surpassed 8300 views and website traffic continues to increase. Recently, they received all of the Harewood Improvement District files that had been in someone's basement.

c) Nanaimo District and Museum

J. Manning reported an increase in gift store numbers over the summer, and mentioned the recent induction ceremony for the Sports Hall of Fame.

Late Item: Commemoration of Miner's Strike

D. Brennan asked if there was anything scheduled to commemorate the Miner's Strike (1912-1914). Members have heard about various events that may be held by community groups, but were not sure of anything.

The Commission would like the City of Nanaimo to hold a special event to recognize the Miner's Strike in some capacity. The special event could be a public presentation to Council and moment of silence. This item will be added to NCHC's next agenda for further discussion.

d) Design Advisory Panel:

C. Riches not in attendance.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 2013-NOV-06 at 5:00 pm in the Board Room of the Service and Resource Centre (411 Dunsmuir Street).

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm.

APPROVED

Chair

Date