

MINUTES NANAIMO COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2011-OCT-05 AT 5:00 PM CITY HALL BOARD ROOM (455 WALLACE STREET)

Present:	William E. Gard, Chair John Hofman John Manning	Karen Hovestad Jill Stannard Charlene Riches
Staff:	Chris Sholberg, Heritage Planner	Rebecca Tubbs, Recording Secretary
Regrets:	Christine Meutzner Loyd Sherry	Geraldine Manson Joan Perry
Guests:	J. Routledge, Builder/Developer	

1. Call to Order

Chair W.E. Gard called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda & Late Items

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

a) J. Routledge (Builder/Developer) Re: Changes to Zoning Bylaw in Old City Area:

C. Sholberg introduced J. Routledge, who attended the meeting to discuss some issues surrounding recent zoning changes in the Old City area. The Nanaimo Old City Association (NOCA) has requested that some of the zoning standards established under the new bylaw (Bylaw 4500) be amended and returned back to the old standards (Bylaw 4000). These requests were made based on NOCA's desire to maintain the current single-family character of the R-1 zoned portion of the neighbourhood by prohibiting duplexes, increasing lot size and reducing carriage house height. Both NOCA and the City have completed surveys of the area, with the majority of respondents in favor of the old standards contained in Bylaw 4000.

J. Routledge wonders what he can do (as a builder and developer) to help preserve neighbourhood character (consistent with what NCHC strives for), but also to increase density (consistent with what developers strive for). K. Hovestad explained that NCHC deals with individual heritage buildings and properties, but has no influence over policy that develops neighbourhood character. J. Hofman suggested that J. Routledge present his questions to the City's Design Advisory Panel (DAP). J. Routledge thanked NCHC and excused himself from the meeting.

3. Adoption of Minutes (2011-SEP-07)

MOVED by J. Stannard, SECONDED by K. Hovestad, that the Minutes from 2011-SEP-07 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED.

4. Budget Review: \$0.00

5. Correspondence, Periodicals, & Newsletters

a) Nanaimo Historical Society Newsletter

6. New Business

- a) <u>Downtown Heritage Walk Brochure Update:</u>
 - The City's Economic Development office has offered to provide funding to update the Downtown Heritage Walk brochure. The existing content will be updated, errors corrected, and the brochure extended to another panel. This may take a few months, but when a proof has been developed, C. Sholberg will present it to NCHC for review and approval
- b) <u>Woodward/Harrison Residence (215 Newcastle Avenue) Fire Damage:</u> A small house fire broke out at 215 Newcastle Avenue, leaving it standing but uninhabitable.
 C. Sholberg recommended that the house remain on the heritage register until its future is determined.

7. Ongoing Business

- a) <u>Heritage Paint Out/Shoot Out (2011-SEP-10) Debrief:</u>
 - Although the event went well (good weather, cruise ship was in town, good final products) there were fewer artists than expected (about 10 people participated in the contest). One of the judges, a VIU professor, offered to bring VIU art class students to next year's event to increase artist participation.

It was suggested that the Commission try pairing with a different arts organization next year, for instance the Nanaimo Art Gallery. C. Sholberg can explore that idea further, but recommended not severing ties with the Arts Council before securing another group.

b) Protection Island Mine Disaster Memorial (2011-SEP-10) – Debrief:

C. Riches attended the anniversary celebration and reported that it was a great event with nice weather, song-singing, refreshments, an unveiling ceremony, etc. Everyone in attendance seemed very pleased with the interpretive sign that was unveiled, which was produced by the City in partnership with the Protection Island Museum Society.

c) <u>BC Heritage Conference (2011-SEP-30) – Debrief:</u>

C. Sholberg attended this event alongside the Mayor to accept an outstanding achievement award from Heritage BC for the Bastion rehabilitation project. Also in attendance were the contracting and consulting groups that carried out the work.

d) <u>Beban House – Update:</u>

Tourism Nanaimo has officially closed due to the formation of the Nanaimo Economic Development Corporation. Other than some interest from the Nanaimo Clippers, there are no prospective tenants at this time.

At the last meeting, the Commission asked that C. Sholberg write a memo to Council, recommending that City-owned heritage buildings be better maintained and that tenant occupancy of Beban House be made a priority. C. Sholberg will speak again to the Parks Department regarding the Commission's concerns with respect to Beban House before going forward with a memo to Council.

W.E. Gard wonders why C. Sholberg has to talk to the Parks Department beforehand; noting that although Parks is responsible for the building's maintenance, the building is on the Commission's heritage register. Therefore, the Commission should be able to make recommendations directly to Council with respect to individual heritage buildings.

e) Entrance Island Lighthouse – Update:

C. Sholberg noted that a nomination for the Entrance Island lighthouse (to be considered for listing on the Federal *Heritage Lighthouse Act*) has been submitted, as encouraged by Heritage BC. He will report back to the Commission when something further is heard about the status of the nomination.

8. Committee Reports

- a) Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee: J. Hofman had no report.
- b) <u>Snuneymuxw First Nation:</u> G. Manson was not in attendance.
- Nanaimo Community Archives Society: C. Meutzner was not in attendance. She had asked C. Sholberg to advise the Commission that the Castaway Motel Sign was, in fact, manufactured locally (based on information provided by Devlin Signs).
- d) <u>Nanaimo District and Museum:</u> J. Manning noted some items of interest, including the fourth Sports Hall of Fame induction and assisting the military museum (formerly located at Nanaimo North Town Centre) in moving into the second floor of the old centennial building.
- e) <u>Design Advisory Panel:</u> J. Perry was not in attendance.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 2011-NOV-02 at 5:00 pm in the City Hall Board Room.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:07 pm.

APPROVED:

Chair

Date

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