



MINUTES
NANAIMO COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2010-OCT-06 AT 5:00 PM
BYLAW CONFERENCE ROOM (238 FRANKLYN STREET)

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

1. Call to Order

Chair W.E. Gard called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. in the Bylaw Conference Room (due to construction at City Hall). The Commission sends their sympathies to J. Stannard, who is unable to attend the meeting due to health reasons.

2. Approval of Agenda & Late Items

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

a) Heritage Action Plan Open House (C. Sholberg):

At previous meetings, the Commission had discussed the idea of an open house based around the Heritage Action Plan. An open house would be a good opportunity for the Commission to share with the public what they have done and what they plan on doing, as well as asking for public input about what they should do next. A comment sheet could be provided to gather specific points of information. The input gathered can be used in a report to Council, outlining what the Commission has completed as well as the new priorities/goals for the next couple of years.

It was suggested that the event be held in a central location within a heritage building on 2010-NOV-17, from 4:00 to 8:00 pm, as a drop-off event. C. Sholberg will prepare some display boards for the event as well as check availability of St. Andrew's United Church. He will send more information to members once plans have been confirmed.

b) Heritage Nanaimo Posters (W.E. Gard):

W.E. Gard asked C. Sholberg about the status of the Heritage Nanaimo Posters. C. Sholberg explained the poster has been sent to Kwik Kopy, who has provided a cost estimate, and will be sending a proof-copy shortly. C. Sholberg noted that because the full reserve fund must be used by the end of the year and the posters will not use the full budget, it may be possible to also produce postcard sized versions as well. The Commission supported the idea and asked C. Sholberg to work out the details.

c) Newspaper article on Chinatown (C. Meutzner):

C. Meutzner noted that a recent article in the newspaper featuring Nanaimo's Chinese heritage, stated the source of information as the Nanaimo Museum. The information, however, was gathered from the Commission's "China Steps" plaque and therefore, should credit the Commission. She asked the newspaper to make the correction and they gladly did so. She feels that the Commission deserves credit for what they've done, whenever possible.

d) Welsbach Gas Lamp (C. Meutzner):

C. Meutzner recently received a call from the Public Works Department regarding the Welsbach Gas Lamp never being lit. Public Works had received a call from a concerned citizen and had contacted C. Meutzner for more information. She sent the information that

was available to A. Laidlaw, General Manager of Community Services. The lamp has nothing to do with Nanaimo's heritage because it was a centennial gift from the Island Gas Company. The lamp is actually from Baltimore. She noted this issue as it may be something that is eventually referred to the Commission as the Parks Department tries to respond to the issue.

3. Adoption of Minutes (2010-SEP-01)

MOVED by K. Hovestad, SECONDED by C. Riches, that the 2010-SEP-01 Minutes be adopted as presented.

CARRIED.

4. Budget Review: \$1,143

5. Correspondence, Periodicals, & Newsletters

a) Nanaimo Historical Society Newsletter

b) Morden Mine Newsletter:

On behalf of J. Hofman, J. Perry noted the Morden Mine's AGM taking place tomorrow (2010-OCT-07) at 1644 McMillan Road. The development plan for the site will be presented, after consulting with the City of Nanaimo, the RDN and Parks BC on a study. C. Sholberg would like both the Commission and Council to receive a copy of the study for information.

c) Nanaimo Arts Council Newsletter

6. New Business

7. Ongoing Business

a) Review of Heritage Register - Continued:

C. Sholberg suggested that this item be referred until the next meeting and until the reviews have been completed and members are present to report the condition of the buildings they have been assigned.

b) Heritage Register Nomination – 724 Haliburton Street:

C. Sholberg distributed copies of the summary and point evaluation to members for information. The building received a score of 64/100. C. Meutzner disagrees with the score and feels that some information in the summary needs to be revised, therefore, changing the result of the point evaluation. She noted that there is no proof that Mr. McGarrigle built the house, or even lived in it. The only thing that is known is that he owned many other houses in the area. If added to the register, she does not recommend using the name "McGarrigle House".

Based on C. Meutzner's comments, C. Sholberg suggested eliminating the connection to Mr. McGarrigle in the point evaluation, bringing the building's score to 52/100.

C. Meutzner noted that the house does represent a good specimen of its kind and that the "Design" and "Construction" categories should have a higher score (from "good" to "very good"), bringing the building's score to 61/100. The building has been virtually unchanged, excluding the basement window. The owners are motivated to be included in the heritage register.

MOVED by J. Perry, SECONDED by K. Hovestad, that the Commission recommend that Council add 724 Haliburton Street to the Heritage Register.

CARRIED.

Side Note: Dickinson Barn, Museum Building, Italian Fountain (C. Sholberg):

As discussed at previous meetings, the Parks Department is concerned about these city-owned buildings being placed on the heritage register or being brought forward to Council. These concerns are based on park improvement plans that will require removal of the buildings/structures in the near future. The Parks Department recommends that these building structures not be placed on the Heritage Register for that reason.

J. Perry asked what the usual protocol would be when staff and an advisory commission are in disagreement. C. Sholberg explained that most likely, he would present both the Commission's and Staff's recommendation to Council when bringing the buildings forward for nomination. This would allow Council to make their own decision based on both recommendations.

L. Sherry explained that Parks' main concern with the Italian fountain is the vast amount of work that needs to be done to upgrade the site. It needs to be completely refurbished. These problems need to be identified in an assessment report. Once an assessment has been completed, the Cavalotti Lodge can be approached with these costs. They may agree that they are too high, as well. They could consider replacing the fountain with something else. If an assessment report is done and the Lodge is approached with the costs, it will give them an opportunity to respond. It should not be removed without giving them the opportunity to repair it themselves.

W.E. Gard feels that the site does have a connection to the Italian community and would rather salvage what is there than build something new.

C. Meutzner was not in favor of preserving the fountain because she thinks it will be too expensive to rebuild it. Also, the fountain was not designed by an Italian. She feels that the issue is not about the fountain itself, but about the memory of the Italian community and a certain period in history.

C. Sholberg reminded the Commission that motions were passed at previous Commission meetings that recommended that these sites be brought forward to Council for approval. The Commission confirmed that the motions should stand.

C. Riches excused herself from the meeting at 5:58 pm.

8. Committee Reports

- a) Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee:
J. Hofman was not in attendance.
- b) Snuneymuxw First Nation:
N/A - Awaiting new rep confirmation.
- c) Nanaimo Community Archives Society:
C. Meutzner reported that her summer student has returned to school and she is now on her own. This is the last year that the Archives will be receiving gaming funding. Two full-time people are needed to run the archives. The Archives may have to be restructured and no longer be a non-profit organization. For the time being, they have hired a temporary employee to come in for 8 hours per week. She is a tremendous researcher and very quick, although, more help is still needed.
- e) Design Advisory Panel:
J. Perry did not attend the meetings in September.
- f) Nanaimo District and Museum:
J. Manning not in attendance

9. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 2010-NOV-03 in the City Hall Board Room at 5:00 pm.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

APPROVED:

Chair

Date