



**MINUTES**  
**NANAIMO COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION**  
**HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2010-APR-07 AT 5:00 PM**  
**CITY HALL BOARD ROOM (455 WALLACE STREET)**

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**Present:** William E. Gard, Chair  
Loyd Sherry  
Joan Perry  
John Hofman  
Charlene Riches  
Jill Stannard  
Christine Meutzner

**Staff:** Chris Sholberg, Heritage Planner  
Rebecca Tubbs, Recording Secretary

**Regrets:** John Manning  
Sandra Penn  
Karen Hovestad

**Guests:** Jill Finnegan, 546 Prideaux Street

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**1. Call to Order**

Chair W.E. Gard called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. in the City Hall Board Room.

**2. Approval of Agenda & Late Items**

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

a) Black Track Tour, 2010-May 2 & 16:

J. Hofman noted that there are still a few spots left on the tour. He will send more information to members via e-mail after the meeting. He also mentioned that the foundry timbers were successfully delivered to the Morden Mine site.

b) Security at City Hall:

C. Sholberg explained that the City Hall building will soon be on a security card system.

**3. Adoption of Minutes (2010-Mar-03)**

MOVED by C. Riches, SECONDED by J. Stannard, that the 2010-Mar-03 Minutes be adopted as presented.

CARRIED.

**4. Budget Review (\$1,500)**

C. Sholberg noted that the remaining budget is actually closer to \$1,850.

**5. Correspondence, Periodicals, & Newsletters**

a) Archaeological Society of B.C. Newsletter

**6. New Business**

None.

## 7. Ongoing Business

### a) Application for Heritage Home Grant, Harrison Residence (546 Prideaux Street):

C. Sholberg explained that an application has been submitted for the repair and repaint of the exterior of 546 Prideaux Street. The building received a score of 71/100 in 1998, based on a point evaluation done by Donald Luxton. Ms. Finnegan, owner, attended the meeting to speak to the application.

L. Sherry arrived at 5:10 p.m.

Ms. Finnegan explained that because the building is so prominent, the color scheme will be kept close to the original. To date, they have completely updated the interior, including the removal of asbestos, plumbing, painting, flooring, banisters, windows, etc. The next step is to improve the exterior. She would like to address all exterior repairs at once (gutters, roof, chimney, etc.).

The total project cost to restore and repaint the exterior will be \$30,450. This estimate includes the costs for structural repair (cracks, settling) that need to be repaired before the exterior is painted.

W.E. Gard asked Ms. Finnegan what interested her in purchasing the building. She explained that her son, an architect, was interested in the house. It has become a retirement project for her and her husband. C. Sholberg noted that the Finnegans have put more work into the building recently than what had been done in many years. C. Sholberg also noted that the building is currently being used as an 8-unit apartment.

W.E. Gard thanked Ms. Finnegan for attending to speak to her application before she excused herself from the meeting.

#### Consideration of Heritage Home Grant:

C. Meutzner feels that on a cultural level, the building deserves a much higher rating; more like 95/100.

MOVED by J. Hofman, SECONDED by J. Perry, that Harrison Residence (546 Prideaux Street) receive a \$2,500 Heritage Home Grant.

CARRIED.

### b) Additions to Heritage Register – Application review:

C. Sholberg and C. Meutzner worked together to create the value statements for the following applications:

#### EJ Hughes Mural:

The Commission reviewed the proposed heritage value statement for the EJ Hughes mural, which is owned by the Archives. The mural did not receive a point evaluation because the system is based on building form. With the current evaluation system, value cannot be based upon 'artistic value'. She added that the true value of the mural is its' community representation of the Malaspina Hotel.

MOVED by J. Perry, SECONDED by C. Meutzner, that the Commission recommend that Council add the EJ Hughes mural to the Heritage Register.

CARRIED.

#### 648 Haliburton Street (Residence):

The Commission reviewed the prepared heritage value statement for 648 Haliburton Street. C. Meutzner explained that there is little known about the history of this building. J. Stannard believes that Melba Biggs' uncle, "McGarrigle", built the home. There are about five similar buildings around town. The building received a failing score of 47/100 under the heritage value point evaluation system, largely due to the stucco, and window/door replacements.

C. Meutzner feels that the landscaping and siting of the building, including the original rock wall, should be represented in the value statement. She explained that there are only five or six rock walls remaining in Nanaimo. C. Sholberg agrees that the rock wall should be included in the value statement, as it has been included in the past for other buildings.

Because this building is currently a work in progress, C. Meutzner would like to defer this application until the updates are complete. The Commission agreed. C. Sholberg will contact the owner to discuss their plans for improvements. He will also inform them of some of the pros and cons noted by members.

*Nanaimo Centennial / Italian Fountain (626 Terminal Avenue):*

The Commission reviewed the prepared heritage value statement. C. Sholberg explained that the application was submitted by a member of the Cavalotti Lodge. The fountain scored 91/100 under the heritage value point evaluation system, with the majority of the fountain's value being the fact that it was created by the Italian community to celebrate BC's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. C. Meutzner suggested that this value statement be revised and that the "Architectural" heading be changed to "Architectural/Aesthetic". She added that the grouping of mature trees and shrubs also add value to the site.

C. Meutzner asked if the surrounding developments could be required to make an amenity contribution to upgrade the site. C. Sholberg said yes, but that the site would require a rezoning to do this. C. Meutzner feels that if the site is not upgraded along with the redevelopment of the mall, there will be even more justification for removing it in the future. Having this site on the register would flag it in the system.

Some members noted that the site is frequently used as a "hang out" spot. With the redevelopment of the mall, it has the potential to become an active pedestrian site that could be enjoyed by all. J. Perry noted that there are currently no plans in the mall redevelopment to update the fountain.

MOVED by J Stannard, SECONDED by J. Perry, that the Commission recommend that Council add the Nanaimo Centennial / Italian Fountain (626 Terminal Avenue) to the Heritage Register.

CARRIED.

*Nanaimo Centennial Museum (100 Cameron Road):*

The Commission reviewed the prepared heritage value statement for the Nanaimo Centennial Museum. C. Sholberg has received three nominations for this building. The building was originally designed to architecturally echo the nearby Bastion and received a score of 73/100 under the heritage value point evaluation system. This building holds a symbolic value toward the bastion as well as connection with a notable local architect, Les Barley.

MOVED by C. Riches, SECONDED by J. Perry, that the Commission recommend that Council add the Nanaimo Centennial Museum (100 Cameron Road) to the Heritage Register.

CARRIED.

*Piper Park (100 Cameron Road):*

C. Sholberg explained that the heritage value point evaluation system does not work for this site. The importance of this site lies within its location and connection to Phil Pipers; City Alderman, Parks Director, and one of the founders of the Nanaimo Museum.

MOVED by C. Riches, SECONDED by J. Perry, that the Commission recommend that Council add Piper Park (100 Cameron Road), to the Heritage Register.

CARRIED.

W.E. Gard asked about the status of the proposed hotel development near the site. L. Sherry explained that the contract for the hotel has been cut off. One of the issues that he has had with the proposed development was the fact that the development wanted to

utilize Piper Park as their front garden. He disagrees that the old museum building is non-functioning and would like to see it preserved. He has heard from organizations who are interested in utilizing the building, noting that the first year of tenancy would require that these organizations make the required upgrades such as roof, air conditioning, etc.

L. Sherry continued to explain that in the early 1980s, the City went to referendum on designating parks. Piper Park was not included. Any commercial development looking to utilize Piper Park will have to go to a public referendum before it is approved.

C. Sholberg will proceed with a report to Council on the recommended Heritage Register additions in the near future.

c) Downtown Residential Conversion Tax Exemption Program & Heritage Façade Improvement Grant Program – Application forms updated:

For information only. Updates to these application packages were made primarily due to the fact that the DNPS is no longer working in partnership with the City on the Façade Grant Program.

d) Columns, Cornices and Coal Budget:

C. Meutzner noted that this is the budget that will be used to fund the “Heritage Nanaimo” poster publication. C. Meutzner suggested that the Commission provide all schools with a free poster. W.E. Gard or C. Sholberg could present the poster to the school.

C. Sholberg noted that he has been approached by Finance Department regarding the “Columns, Cornices and Coal” reserve fund, which currently holds \$5,000. He was informed that this is the last year that the Commission will be able to keep the money in reserves. If unused, the funds will go into general revenue.

J. Perry suggested using all of the money to produce more posters or redo the existing heritage walk brochures. The Commission agreed.

e) Heritage Nanaimo Poster – Final version:

C. Sholberg presented the Commission with the final poster. W.E. Gard noted that there is a fellow who comes to Tourism Nanaimo and purchases “Bastion through the Mist” posters for \$2.00, frames them, and sells them for more a profit. W.E. Gard would be able to arrange sale of posters through Tourism Nanaimo.

W.E. Gard thanked C. Sholberg and R. Tubbs for their work on the poster.

MOVED by C. Meutzner, SECONDED by C. Riches, that the Commission proceed with the publication of the Heritage Nanaimo poster using the Columns, Cornices and Coal reserve funds for this purpose and any related costs.

CARRIED.

f) Heritage Sign Inventory:

For information.

g) Maffeo-Sutton Park - Project update:

C. Sholberg noted that there are numerous phases to the project. The first phase has been completed, but it is unknown when the next phase will start. C. Sholberg will e-mail members with any information he receives from the Parks Department.

## 8. Committee Reports

a) Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee:

No report.

b) Snuneymuxw First Nation:

S. Penn not in attendance.

- c) Nanaimo Community Archives Society:  
No report.
- d) Nanaimo District and Museum:  
J. Manning not in attendance.
- e) Design Advisory Panel:  
No report.

J. Perry noted that she attended the "Wild West Express" event to raise funds for the E&N railway station rehabilitation. The event was a great success, with the Young Professionals of Nanaimo raising more than \$300,000 in cash and in-kind donations to date. Bids on the silent auction were very generous.

**9. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 2010-May-05 in the City Hall Board Room at 5:00 pm.

**10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

APPROVED:

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Chair

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Date