



MINUTES
NANAIMO COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2009-JUN-17 AT 5:00 PM
AT THE BRICK COTTAGE, 1904 JINGLE POT ROAD

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

1. Call to Order

Chair W.E. Gard called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda and Late Items

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

- a) B.C. History Federation Conference - History in your Neighbourhood (May 13-15) debrief:
J. Hofman thanked the Commission for allowing him to attend the conference in Nelson. The conference included a workshop about how to raise funding and site-visits to local mines.
- b) Garden to be maintained at Brick Cottage:
C. Sholberg will mention to the Parks Department that the garden area outside of the Brick Cottage needs to be tended to as it is quite overgrown.
- c) Ladysmith Commission – Assistance:
W.E. Gard noted that it was nice to have the Ladysmith Commission visit to discuss some of the issues they are facing. Although it has been suggested that this Commission attend one of their meetings, W.E. Gard noted that they hold their meetings at 7:00 p.m. He suggested that if the Ladysmith Commission were to hold an outdoor event, that this Commission bring its display boards there and show them some examples of ways to draw public interest. L. Sherry added that it will create a clearer understanding for their Council of what the Ladysmith Commission is trying to do in regards to heritage conservation. L. Sherry also suggested that if a display is taken to Ladysmith, that it be related to mining.

J. Hofman reminded the Commission that the South End Miner's Picnic is being held this Saturday.
- d) Pacific Biological Station – National Historic Status:
C. Sholberg received a letter from the Federal Government informing him that the application for the Biological Station to be granted National Historic status will be considered in July by the National Historic Sites & Monuments Board.
- e) Tour of 752 Howard Avenue and Retired Teachers Association Heritage Collection at NDSS:
C. Sholberg informed the Commission that he has not yet been able to schedule a tour of either facility. He will try to set a date for the tours during the summer and will send out invitations to members once it has been set.
- f) Rehabilitation of the Bastion:
C. Sholberg informed the Commission that Read, Jones, Christofferson was recently hired to do structural assessment work on the Bastion due to ongoing water seepage issues. The cost estimate is \$70,000 to \$125,000 to deal with all the necessary work to level the building, treat the water-damaged area, and prevent the problem from reoccurring. The last time the building was

rehabilitated was in 1992-1993. As this is one of Nanaimo's most iconic buildings, the Commission feels that this rehabilitation is important. C. Sholberg said that he would like this issue to be placed in the 2010 budget for Council's consideration.

L. Sherry suggested that the Foundry wood be used to stabilize the Bastion. It was noted that it may not be the most appropriate solution as the Bastion is made of cedar. L. Sherry also suggested installing a steel I-beam inside. The Commission noted that any alterations will take away from the original integrity.

MOVED by J. Perry, SECONDED by J. Stannard, that the Commission recommend that Council initiate required repair work to the Bastion as identified in the Read, Jones, Christofferson structural assessment report.

CARRIED.

J. Hofman refrained from the general discussion and abstained from the vote due to his connection with Read, Jones, Christofferson.

g) Nob Hill Walk Brochure:

C. Sholberg provided a draft copy of the Nob Hill Walk brochure to the Commission for information. J. Perry and K. Hovestad noted that they had walked the tour and that they felt the sites should be numbered in a different order. They will figure out the most convenient order of sites this weekend. C. Sholberg will wait until he receives the renumbered tour before sending the brochures to print.

3. Adoption of Minutes (2009-May-06)

MOVED by K. Hovestad, SECONDED by J. Stannard, that the Minutes of the 2009-May-06 meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED.

4. Budget Review (\$800)

5. Correspondence, Periodicals, & Newsletters

a) Nanaimo Arts Council Newsletter

b) Light Emitting Diode (LED) Animated Signs in Downtown Core (info only):

C. Sholberg explained that the Heritage Sign Guidelines currently allow for neon and marquee signage on heritage buildings. The Sign Committee is looking at reviewing the City Sign Bylaw to allow for LED signage. The Committee is still receiving input on this issue if members would like to individually express their thoughts on the topic.

6. New Business

a) Paint-Out/Shoot-Out with Nanaimo Arts Council:

C. Sholberg informed the Commission that the Nanaimo Arts Council would again like to partner with them for the Paint-Out/Shoot-Out. The event will be held 2009-Sep-19 from approximately 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. As last year, the prize money will be \$500. W.E. Gard requested a list of locations that artists will be painting, as last year he had a difficult time finding participants.

MOVED by C. Riches, SECONDED by J. Perry, that the amount of \$500 in uncommitted funds be allocated from the budget as prize money for the Paint-Out/Shoot-Out being held 2009-Sep-19.

CARRIED.

b) Foundry Timbers – Friends of Morden Mine support request:

C. Sholberg explained that the Foundry timbers were originally intended to be incorporated in some way into a structure at Maffeo-Sutton Park. Because of the modern style of the structure and structural issues with the timbers, the timbers were not used. The Friends of Morden Mine would like to use the timbers as structural supports at Morden Mine. It would be a temporary way for them to reinforce the mine structures until work can be completed. As this issue will be

presented to Council, the Friends of Morden Mine are looking for support of the Commission for this plan.

C. Sholberg noted that there are no other uses for the wood at this time. J. Hofman noted that if the City was to want the timbers back at a later time, they would be welcome to take them.

MOVED by J. Perry, SECONDED by J. Stannard, that the Commission advise Council that it supports the Foundry timbers being used at the Morden Mine site as structural supports.

CARRIED.

7. Old Business

a) Committee Awards Luncheon Debrief:

The Awards Luncheon was a success. The Commission gave out four awards. Two awards were given for commercial rehabilitation, one for residential rehabilitation, and one for the John Thomson Heritage Memorial Award.

J. Stannard noted that she did not see mention of the Awards Luncheon featured in the Daily News. W.E. Gard suggested that the Nanaimo Magazine would be a good place to publish the story.

b) Raines Cabin – Council Report & Status:

City Staff recently wrote a report to Council regarding the relocation of the Raines Cabin. The report explains that the building has been leaning and structurally failing. There is no use for the building now that the museum does not use it. The report outlines the available options. The family of the original owner was contacted and asked if they would be interested in taking the cottage back. A family member was happy to take the cabin and reconstruct it close to its original site. Due to his family connection, he has motivation to take care of it. This building will be removed from the Heritage Register because it has been relocated outside of city limits.

c) Maffeo-Sutton Park Interpretive Signs:

C. Sholberg has been working with Parks & Recreation to create a series of interpretive signs representing Nanaimo's history at the Maffeo-Sutton Park site. This series of signs will be mounted on the pillars of the new pavilion structure (four panels per side, 16 panels total). The information will take a look at Nanaimo's industrial, recreational, environmental, and First Nations history. It is hoped that the project will be finished on 2009-Jul-01. Sample panels have temporarily been added to the pillars if members would like to take a look.

d) Oliver Woods Community Centre – Foundry wood sign:

C. Sholberg informed the Commission that he has spoken with the Public Works Department and they would like to gather some content for this sign. They will create the mockup for the Commission to review at a later date. J. Perry suggested that it may be a good idea for C. Sholberg to provide them with some content in order to keep the ball moving.

8. Committee Reports

a) Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee:

No report.

b) Snuneymuxw First Nation:

S. Penn not in attendance.

c) Nanaimo Community Archives Society:

C. Meutzner was not in attendance. She sent a report update via e-mail:

The Hughes mural was installed 2009-May-14 in the Vancouver Island Conference Centre. The event was successful and everyone seemed pleased with the final product. The Archives is currently working on some permanent interpretive signage and assorted legal odds and ends.

C. Meutzner also sent a reminder to the Commission members that the Archives AGM is taking place 2009-June-17, at 6:30 p.m. at the Downtown Harbourfront Library. There will be a presentation by C. Meutzner entitled "A Few of My Favorite Things" following the meeting portion of the evening. Members of the Commission and the public are welcome to attend.

d) Nanaimo District and Museum:
J. Manning not in attendance.

e) Design Advisory Panel:
J. Perry reported that the Design Advisory Panel is a very busy group who meets every two weeks. They have presented two items of heritage interest:

Library on Fitzwilliam (580 Fitzwilliam Street)

The City would like to refurbish the building, reintroduce the glass in the front (along Milton Street), and make other minor changes to allow additional windows at office level (along Fitzwilliam Street).

E&N Train Station (321 Selby Street)

The Island Corridor Foundation has accessed money to do a rehabilitation of the train station. They will be refurbishing the whole building. VIA Rail will occupy a small space of the building and three commercial units will be located on the main floor, with office space upstairs. These commercial units will help to generate revenue and maintain the building. The ICF has worked on the station's plans with Robert Lemon, a noted heritage architect and consultant. These plans have been reviewed by the Federal Government and are supported.

C. Sholberg informed the Commission that he has developed a heritage alteration permit report for the train station and that the process is moving quickly. For review, he provided a handout of proposed plans for the station. It is hoped for the report to be presented at the 2009-Jun-29 Council meeting. The cost of the project is estimated at about \$2.4 million. Phase One will include picking up the building to put a new foundation down, rehabilitating the outdoor elements, and enclosing the building to lock-up. Phase Two will include arrangements of leasing and tenants, as it is difficult to find tenants for an unfinished building. It is hoped to have Phase One completed by fall 2009 to prevent the building from having to endure another winter in an exposed state.

9. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 2009-Sep-02 in the City Hall Board Room.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVED:

Chair

Date