

**CITY OF NANAIMO**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NANAIMO COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION**  
**HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2008-SEP-03 AT 5:00 P.M.**  
**AT THE CITY HALL BOARD ROOM (455 WALLACE STREET)**

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**Present:** Bill Gard, Vice-Chair  
David Hill-Turner  
Karen Hovestad  
Blake McGuffie  
Charlene Riches  
Lloyd Sherry

**Guests:** Joan Perry

Staff:

Chris Sholberg, Heritage Planner  
Lisa Dennis, Recording Secretary  
Rebecca Tubbs, Recording Secretary

**Regrets:** Geraldine Manson  
John Hofman  
Jeff Thomas  
Christine Meutzner  
Dallas Dowson-Buffalo

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Chair Bill Gard called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES (2008-JUN-04)**

MOVED by K. Hovestad, SECONDED by C. Riches, that the minutes of the 2008-Jun-04 meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**3. BUDGET REVIEW**

C. Sholberg noted:

- The budget is in the negative.
- Asked for additional \$3,000, and exceeded that. \$3,300 over budget due to projects.
- Still have to consider the paint out (\$500) committed but not spent and Christmas meeting (\$300). Will ask for additional funds to cover these expenses.
- Talked to Bruce Anderson about a dedicated budget line item to separate some expenses from the general budget, a small capital budget.

**4. LATE ITEMS**

There were nine late items:

a) Biological Station

C. Sholberg noted:

- Federal nomination is still in the works and is moving forward slowly.
- Commission received an invite to the dedication of the plaque which will occur about 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on 2008-Oct-01.
- Six commission members will be in attendance on 2008-Oct-01: Chris, Bill, Charlene, Karen, and Blake. Joan will also attend.

b) V.I.E.X.

C. Sholberg asked the Commission members for their input on the Heritage display at the V.I.E.X:

NCHC Comments:

- People were very attracted to the photo walls of heritage buildings.
- Should consider organizing the boards by neighborhood at some point.
- It was very hot, so some of the displays were coming apart. Heat was a major consideration. The displays may do better against the wall next time.
- The street lamp was a big hit.
- Saturday was the busiest day – It was a great success and provided excellent exposure.

c) Historical Society

C. Sholberg advised:

- There will be a meeting on 2008-Sep-11 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in Activity Room 1 at Bowen Park. Chris will do a presentation on the City's Heritage Conservation Program and the activities of the Neighborhood Network.

d) Heritage Stakeholders Workshop

C. Sholberg advised:

- The Heritage Stakeholders Workshop will be held 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on 2008-Sep-05, at the Port of Nanaimo Centre and forms part of the consultation process at the B.C. Heritage Branch is using to develop a new strategic plan to guide heritage policy over the next 5-10 years.

e) Heritage Tour

C. Sholberg advised:

- He gave a tour for the Economic Development conference and will give another tour to the IT conference on 2008-Sep-24.

f) Lighthouses

C. Sholberg provided a package of information outlining the introduction of the new Federal Lighthouse Protection Act and status of Entrance Island and Protection Island Lighthouse/Beacon.

g) E&N Rail Corridor

C. Sholberg noted:

- The Island Corridor Foundation needs about \$103 million to do repairs to the rail system, including repairs to train stations.
- The Foundation is looking at a 3-way partnership with Federal and Provincial Governments.
- Federal Government is Committed; need Provincial Commitment.

NCHC Comments:

- Some of the E&N Station will have to be rebuilt and may have to be moved with a new foundation although some old parts can be reused.
- Only worth preserving if there is a use for it.

- The Downtown Nanaimo Partnership committed \$40,000 towards rebuilding the station.
- The problem is that the building needs to be upgraded; the problem is not just about repairing the fire damage.

## 5. CORRESPONDENCE/PERIODICALS/NEWSLETTERS

- a) Heritage B.C. Quarterly
- For information.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

- a) "How-To Guide" for researching and writing plaques/heritage brochures

C Sholberg noted:

- Delayed until Christine can address.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS

- a) OCP Update

C. Sholberg noted:

- Third reading and adoption are scheduled for the 2008-Sep-08 council meeting.
- Contains an Action Plan for Heritage Planning.

- b) Maffeo-Sutton Park Redevelopment – Project Update

C. Sholberg noted:

- Meeting with Kirsty McDonald to go over detailed plan 2008-Sep-03.
- Phase 1 is Spirit Square development.
- This project will be a five- or six-phase process, but the Spirit Square is the time sensitive issue.
- Interpretative elements: will see how Parks has incorporated the Foundry elements. Is hoping for a structural element as well as an artistic component.
- The Foundry beams are being stored appropriately but can't remain where they are forever. They are currently tarped at Public Works but may be eventually be affected by the elements.
- Chris will circulate Park's plans to the commission once he sees them, and will request that a presentation be made to the commission.
- The planning work needs to be nailed down by the end of this year.

NCHC Comments:

- Including a shelter that is reflective of the Foundry has been talked about but has not appeared in the plans. There is a need for a fixed shelter on site and the Foundry concept would be well suited.
- Too many hard surfaces and too much hard architecture. Park aspect may be lost.
- NCHC goal was to use interpretive aspects to commemorate industrial activities and historic uses on waterfront. Why couldn't these be part of the Spirit Square?
- Heritage alternatives for park design have not been vetted to the public.

c) Harewood Heritage Walk Brochure – Published Version

C. Sholberg noted:

- The brochure has been completed and distributed to various organizations (Downtown Nanaimo Partnership, museum, Archives, Tourism Nanaimo).

d) Ships That Built Nanaimo Heritage Plaques – Status

C. Sholberg noted:

- Handed out a hard copy draft-version of the front and back of the plaques to Commission for review.
- Installation hopefully will be on the waterfront walk by the wharfinger's office. If Port Authority approves, they should be installed by the end of year.
- The plaques would be 1 x 4 ft in size, placed at a 45° angle along the railings.
- Would like to do another series of plaques on the waterfront so these will serve as a design template.

e) Portals to our Heritage Project – Departure Bay – Debrief on July Event

C. Sholberg noted:

- Project is complete. There are also some interpretive plaques there.
- The July event was a great success.

NCHC Comments:

- Have heard complaints that the Totem Portal should have been carved on both sides.

f) Heritage Paint Out (2008-SEP-13) – Updates and Volunteers

C. Sholberg noted:

- Event is going ahead on 2008-Sep-13 and will run from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Judging will be at 3:00 p.m. in the Port of Nanaimo Centre lobby. Any commission members who can help out are welcome.
- The Art's Council is keen on continuing this event.

g) Meeting with Ladysmith Commission

C. Sholberg advised:

- He will try to organize for November.

h) Courthouse plaque

C. Sholberg noted:

- He will find out from Public Works when it will be re-installed.

## 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee

D. Hill Turner noted:

- Nothing to report, committee is on hiatus.

b) Snuneymuxw First Nation

G. Manson was not present.

c) Nanaimo Community Archives Society

C. Meutzner noted (via email):

- Preparing for unveiling of EJ Hughes mural next spring.
- Currently researching Hughes family history as it relates to Nanaimo, and has spoken to several family members.
- Processing and formatting Nanaimo Historical Society's oral history transcripts for uploading to the website.

d) Nanaimo District and Museum

D. Hill-Turner noted:

- Moved into Port of Nanaimo Centre and are now open.
- Museum has the first bathtub exhibit ever in their history.
- Most of collection is still at the old museum and will be moved down over the winter.
- Visitations are up enormously.

NCHC Comments:

- Demolition of old museum: decision was made by Council long ago, although there has still not been an estimate on the cost to demolish the upper portion of the museum.
- The plan was to demolish the upper floor and seal it off so the museum can use the bottom portion for storage and display.
- Commission is hoping that there will be consultation prior to that happening.

e) Design Advisory Panel

Blake McGuffie noted:

- Robins Garden site on Irwin and Esplanade is under development. There was to be a 5-building, 45-unit condo in bright, heritage colors.
- They are preserving 85% of the trees.
- Chris will find more current drawings for the commission to see.
- Vivo developers are going to be building a 38 unit residential apartment across from the Balmoral Hotel.

**9. NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 2008-Oct-01 in the Board Room.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.