

CITY OF NANAIMO
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NANAIMO COMMUNITY HERITAGE
COMMISSION HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2007-MAR-07 AT 5:00 P.M.
IN THE BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL, 455 WALLACE STREET

Present: Bill Gard
John Hofman, Chair
David Hill-Turner
Karen Hovestad

Blake McGuffie
Christine Meutzner
Councillor Loyd Sherry

Staff:

Chris Sholberg, Heritage Planner
Fran Grant, Recording Secretary

Regrets: Geraldine Manson
Charlene Riches

Guest: Joan Perry

Dallas Dowson-Buffalo

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair J. Hofman at 5:05 pm.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES 2007-Feb-07

MOVED by B. McGuffie, SECONDED by K. Hovestad, that the minutes of 2007-Feb-07 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. BUDGET REVIEW (\$5,800.00)

C. Sholberg noted that the budget still remains at \$5,800.

4. LATE ITEMS

There were no late items.

5. CORRESPONDENCE/PERIODICALS/NEWSLETTERS

a) Heritage B.C. Newsletter

Attached for information.

b) Nanaimo District Museum Newsletter

Attached for information.

6. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a) Heritage Register Nominations:

C. Meutzner distributed information and worksheets on four of the eight nominated buildings and gave a brief overview of each one as it was discussed.

Commission members used the worksheets to rate the four buildings nominated for inclusion on the Heritage Register.

MOVED by K. Hovestad, SECONDED by B. Gard, that the Heritage Commission recommend to Council that 904 Wentworth Street, 411 Macleary Street and 185 Stewart Avenue be placed on the Heritage Register.

CARRIED

The Commission agreed that 407 Macleary Street did not meet the criteria for inclusion on the register.

C. Sholberg advised that he will wait until the Commission evaluates the remaining four nominations before sending a report to Council.

b) Heritage Summit – debrief:

C. Sholberg noted that:

- Gave a presentation on vernacular architecture in Nanaimo.
- The event went well with approximately 30 people in attendance.
- There were a number of interesting presentations given by heritage and cultural group representatives.

B. Gard added that he felt the evening was worthwhile with lots of positive feedback from those in attendance.

Comments from the Commission on how to increase attendance at the Summit:

- Alternate the summit with a different type of event every second year.
- Resurrect the heritage pub crawl on alternate years.
- Hold the event at a heritage significant location such as Beban House or Gusola Block.

c) Industrial Heritage/Foundry Interpretation Concept for Maffeo-Sutton Park –update:

C. Sholberg noted that:

- Report from Arcadia Landscape Architects showing three options is included in the agenda package.
- Site for the structure has not been chosen yet.
- Final decision will be made by the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission.

Comments from the Commission:

- Feel it is essential that the chosen structure emulate the roof form of the Foundry as shown in option A.
- The Foundry had what is called a “basilica” style roof line.

MOVED by B. McGuffie, SECONDED by B. Gard, that the submission be forwarded to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission noting the Commission preference for the basilica style roof as shown in option ‘A’.

CARRIED

d) Robins Gardens Development Project:

C. Sholberg noted:

- Preliminary drawings for the development proposal are in the agenda package.
- Has been working with the developer and hoping to see changes made to the proposal that are more sympathetic to the heritage of the surrounding neighbourhood.
- Most of the significant trees on the property will be retained if the arborist finds them healthy.
- The drawings are only at the concept stage at this time.

e) Demolition of Cavalsky Residence at 84 Esplanade:

C. Sholberg noted:

- The owners offered the house free of charge to anyone interested in moving it from its present site.
- The owners have accepted an offer from the Snuneymuxw First Nation to move the house and use it for their youth centre.
- The SFN are now in the process of raising funds for the move and renovations.

f) Morden Mine Site – update:

C. Sholberg noted:

- Talked to Drew Chapman of B.C. Parks who suggested that:
 - Province may be interested in partnering with other levels of government but there is no provincial money available for preservation of the structures.
 - Encourage the Morden Mine group to work with the City and RDN.
- Information from the B.C. Parks' web site is included in the agenda package.
- Tom Osborne, RDN Parks Dept., advised that:
 - Currently no plans to improve the site.
 - Submission to stabilize the tibble could be made by the group.
 - RDN interest is in the trail system.
 - Would be open to partnership ideas from the City or province.
- City's is concerned about liability issues if they become involved in the site.

Comments from the Commission:

- Suggest that Electoral Area A Director should be taking this forward to the Regional Board.
- Feel it should be the Regional Districts responsibility.
- This project will need a considerable amount of funding.
- Since the City of Nanaimo was the centre of the historical mining industry, this site could be a monument to our mining history.
- The structural assessment has shown that this structure is in imminent danger of coming down.

g) Harewood Heritage Walk/Drive Brochure

C. Meutzner noted:

- Had to make a number of revisions to the text to fit it onto the standard brochure paper but still need to do more to make room for some photos.
- Will bring the brochure in for the Commission's comments when it is finished.

h) Harewood School – update:

C. Sholberg noted:

- The neighbourhood has formed a society and had a feasibility study done.
- They would like to retain the school building and use it for a community and health centre, similar to reuse of old Princess Royal School building in South End.
- They are in the process of fund raising but they would need at least \$1 million so don't believe they will be able to do it on their own.
- May be able to get some support from a Provincial Government program which promotes community use of schools.

i) Heritage Home Grant Program – Information Sheet:

C. Sholberg noted:

- Distributed the information sheet drafted by J. Perry.
- Plan to use this sheet as a hand out to people who are interested in applying for program funds.

The Commission agreed that the information sheet will be very helpful to Home Grant applicants and thanked J. Perry for her help.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee:

D. Hill-Turner noted:

- Working on ten applications to amend the OCP.
- No issues of heritage importance as yet.

b) Snuneymuxw First Nation:

G. Manson was not present.

c) Nanaimo Community Archives Society

C. Meutzner noted:

- There is renewed interest in the murals that were removed from the old Malaspina Hotel.
- The City has agreed to store the E. J. Hughes mural at the Public Works Yard which will save much needed funds that the Archives is currently paying for storage.
- Duncan has also expressed an interest in restoring and displaying the murals as E. J. Hughes lived for many years in Duncan.

C. Sholberg advised that the City is exploring using the murals of part of the Maffeo-Sutton Park upgrade.

d) Nanaimo District and Museum

D. Hill-Turner noted:

- Fund raising campaign to finish the inside of the new Museum at the conference centre, is going well with over \$700,000 raised of the \$1.6 million needed.
- Summer will see the return of the popular heritage pub and cemetery tours.
- Coal mine tour will be held on Saturday, April 28.

e) Design Advisory Panel

B. McGuffie and J. Hofman had left the meeting before this item was discussed.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 2007-Apr-04 (postponed to May 02).

10. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

APPROVED:

Chair

Date