

CITY OF NANAIMO
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NANAIMO COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2006-NOV-01 AT 5:00 P.M.
IN THE BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL, 455 WALLACE STREET

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

Blake McGuffie
Charlene Riches
Councillor Loyd Sherry
Jeff Thomas

Staff:

Chris Sholberg, Heritage Planner
Fran Grant, Recording Secretary

Andrew Tucker
Richard Harding

Regrets: Christine Meutzner
Geraldine Manson

1. Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chair J. Hofman at 5:06 p.m.

2. Adoption Of Minutes (2006-Sep-06, 2006-Oct-04):

MOVED by B. McGuffie, SECONDED by C. Riches, that the minutes of 206-Sep-06 and 2006-Oct-04 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. Budget Review:

C. Sholberg noted that there is \$3,325.91 remaining in the 2006 budget and that any monies that remain at the end of the year revert back to general revenue.

4. Late Items

a) Piper Park Redevelopment Process:

R. Harding, Manager of Parks, distributed copies of the Report to Council outlining the process for Piper Park redevelopment and gave a brief presentation. He also noted that:

- The Heritage Commission will be asked to participate as one of the stakeholders in the plan.
- The Horticultural Society has expressed an interest in helping with the site plan.
- The Miner's cottage and locomotive will be included in the consultation process.

R. Harding gave the following answers to questions from the Commission members:

- Plans have not been made for the relocation of the Miner's cottage and locomotive.
- There are problems in the park with street people.
- Currently working with the Bylaw Dept. and the RCMP using the CPTED guidelines to remove some of the vegetation on the site for safety purposes.

- There are no plans to take out any of the large trees. A few of the trees may need to be removed if they are considered unsafe (e.g. topped trees) but they are not significant trees.
- Plans for the hotel include access from the lobby to the park.
- Stairway will be built by the retaining wall on Front Street but this may have to be changed as it is the most challenging part of the plan.
- Anticipate keeping the locomotive and cottage on the site.
- There is room on the site to keep the bottom part of the museum building. The concrete area could be used as public space. This issue will be part of the process.

Comment from Commission member:

- Concerned that trees may be removed before planning process starts.

The Chair thanked R. Harding for his presentation.

b) Heritage Alteration Permit – Nanaimo Foundry:

A. Tucker, distributed copies of the Report to Council on the Heritage Alteration Permit, A map of the Nanaimo Foundry site and gave a brief presentation. He also noted that:

- Started the public process for reuse of the Foundry in Nov. 2005. This process was stopped when the Snuneymuxw First Nation became interested in the property.
- The land (lot 3 on the map) was owned by the Port Authority who transferred it to the Federal government, then to the SFN.
- The Heritage Alteration Permit went directly to Council because it is a government to government request.
- Looking at trying to preserve some of the vertical beams perhaps as part of an interpretive display which could be located at the new Oliver Road centre or Maffeo-Sutton park. Saving original overhead crane as well.

A. Tucker gave the following answers to questions from the Commission:

- The building is being taken down by the City before it is transferred to the SFN.
- The groups whose proposals made the short list for the reuse of the Foundry have been kept up to date on the process and have been notified that the Heritage Alteration Permit has been issued.
- Parts of the building previously demolished are currently being stored at the Foundry and will be moved to the City's Public Works yard.
- Cliff Street extension will be built to interim standards in 2007 until some of the outstanding site development issues are sorted out. The site is a rich deposit of SFN artifacts and they also expect to find more remains when further archaeological work is undertaken on the Foundry site.

Comments from Commission members:

- Surprised and disappointed at the decision because of all the interest that was shown during the Foundry reuse process.
- Would like to spend some time at a future NCHC meeting discussing ideas for the salvaged parts of the building and make recommendations to Council. (C. Sholberg will follow up on this.)

C. Sholberg added:

- Will be sending a report to Council about having some type of interpretive centre for industrial heritage on the water front.

The Chair thanked A. Tucker for his presentation.

c) Departure Bay Neighbourhood Heritage Night:

K. Hovestad noted that:

- the Departure Bay Neighbourhood Association is hosting a history night on Nov. 16, starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Kin Hut and everyone is invited to attend.
- This year's theme is the History of Departure Bay.
- Author Carol Davidson will be giving a talk.

5. Correspondence/Periodicals/Newsletters

None

6. New Business

a) Joint Awards Luncheon Ceremony – request for funding assistance

C. Sholberg noted that:

- Being held on Nov. 09, 11:30 – 2:00 pm in the Lounge at Beban Park.
- Opportunity for all Committees of Council to give out their awards and meet each other.
- NCHC is invited even though they don't have an award recipient this year.
- There will be a catered lunch provided with a request for funds to cover this going to all the Committees.
- Being organized by the four staff members who sit on the Committees.

Comments from Commission members:

- Have a problem with providing the same amount of money towards the event when we do not have any awards this year but other committees have many.
- This event could be our way of honouring all Committee's winners.

MOVED by K. Hovestad, SECONDED by B. Gard, that NCHC contribute up to \$500 towards the awards luncheon expenses but also express our desire to see a more equitable cost sharing arrangement for the next event.

CARRIED

C. Sholberg will e-mail all Commission members asking if they wish to attend the luncheon.

b) Work Plan Review – Budget Items

C. Sholberg gave a brief overview of the 2006 NCHC work plan to asked if there were any projects that the Commission wished to use the remaining 2006 budget funds on.

After some discussion the Commission decided to use some of the remaining funds to print more Heritage Walk brochures as there was not enough time to complete any of the remaining work plan items by the end of 2006.

MOVED by D. Hill-Turner, SECONDED by B. McGuffie, that up to \$2500 be used to print Heritage Walk brochures.

CARRIED

7. Old Business

a) 10 Year Official Community Plan Review – Update – Terms of Reference

C. Sholberg noted that:

- Terms of Reference for the review will be sent out to Commission members.
- First public conference is being held on 2006-Nov-18 at Malaspina University-College and NCHC members are invited to attend.
- A different back grounder is being printed each week in the Nanaimo Bulletin.
- Any issues raised by NCHC will be given to the consultants.

b) Historic Sites and Monuments Board Nomination – Biological Station and Newcastle Island - status

D. Hill-Turner noted that once all the letters of support have been received the application will be sent to HSBC.

c) Foundry Building – Update

Discussed under late item b.

8. Committee Reports

a) Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee

D. Hill-Turner noted that the next step in the 10 year review process is the Conference as discussed earlier.

b) Snuneymuxw First Nation

J. Thomas noted that

- He wanted to thank the Commission for the good, consistent work it is doing.

c) Nanaimo Community Archives Society

C. Sholberg noted on behalf of C. Meutzner:

- Set up the NCHC's display material along with the Archives at the recent Arts Fair.
- Working with the Parks, Recreation and Culture Dept. on Loudon Park walk way interpretive plaques.

d) Nanaimo District and Museum

D. Hill-Turner noted that:

- Just opened the Canadian currency exhibit "Count Your Pennies".
- Textile collection on until Dec. 23.
- Jan Peterson book launch was well received.

- Working on booking exhibits for the new museum space in the Conference Centre.
- May bring back the coal mining tunnel exhibit in the new museum which will also contrast early coal mines with modern mines.

e) Design Advisory Panel

J. Hofman

- City is engaging local architects and designers for the new Downtown Design Guidelines and held a design charrette on Saturday, Oct. 14.
- Participants identified ways to connect the two sides of Downtown core which the highway cuts in half.
- Plans for the Assembly Wharf will be very important to the future of the Downtown.

9. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 2006-Dec.-06 (Dorchester Hotel).

10. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVED:

Chair

Date