

CITY OF NANAIMO
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NANAIMO COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2005-OCT-05 AT 5:00 P.M.
IN THE TRAINING ROOM, CITY HALL ANNEX, 238 FRANKLYN ST.

Present: David Hill-Turner John Nimmo
 Christine Meutzner John Hofman
 Councillor Loyd Sherry Colleen Parsley

Staff:
Chris Sholberg, Heritage Planner
Fran Grant, Recording Secretary

Regrets: Geraldine Manson Bill Gard

Others: Charlene Riches

1. Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chair J. Hofman at 5:10 p.m.

2. Adoption of Minutes:

MOVED by D. Hill-Turner , SECONDED by J. Nimmo, that the minutes of 2005-Sept-07 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. Budget Review:

C. Sholberg gave a brief update on the budget and noted that there is approximately \$5729 left in uncommitted funds. He asked the Commission if there are any projects requiring funds that could be completed by the end of the year. He noted the following possibilities:

- print more brochures
- new plaque projects (the ones currently being done are already covered by other sources)

The Commission gave the following ideas:

- pledge funds towards the miner's memorial (C. Sholberg advised that monies have to be spent during the current year and cannot be carried over. He will check this out to make sure.)
- help out with Morden Mines preservation (C. Sholberg noted that any projects has to be inside the city's boundaries)
- ask the Downtown Nanaimo Partnership if NCHC can contribute to the China Steps projects
- a more functional exhibit system (C. Sholberg will look into this and bring information to the next meeting)

4. Late Items

China Town Park - C. Parsley

5. Correspondence/Periodicals/Newsletters

a) Down To Earth – Cemeteries Symposium

C. Sholberg asked that anyone interested in attending this symposium, contact him.

The Commission members agreed to pay for any interested Commission member to attend this event.

b) Nanaimo Arts Council Newsletter

C. Sholberg circulated copies for information.

c) Nanaimo Historical Society Newsletter

C. Sholberg circulated copies for information.

6. New Business

a) Heritage Register Nomination Review

C. Sholberg distributed information on each of the buildings nominated for inclusion in the Heritage Register. He and C. Meutzner gave an overview of each of the sites.

MOVED by J. Nimmo, SECONDED by C. Parsley, that the Commission recommend Council add the following properties to the Heritage Register:

- Stephens Residence (505 Stewart Avenue)
- Young-Pargeter Residence (45 Milton Street)
- Hitchen Residence (395 Machleary Street)
- Steel Residence (990 Campbell Street)
- Gulliford Residence (285 Wall Street)
- Castaway Motel Sign (205 Terminal Ave. North)
- No. 1 Mine Whistle (455 Wallace Street)

CARRIED

7. Old Business

a) Foundry Adaptive Reuse Project – status

C. Sholberg distributed a memo outlining the project and the draft agenda for the first public meeting. He also noted that:

- A professional facilitator, Rob Roycroft, has been hired for the three public events.
- Expression of Interest is going out to see if there is any commercial interest in the building.
- \$15,000 is budgeted for the process.

- The facilitator has asked to meet with NCHC before the Oct. 19 session, possibly at a lunch meeting.
- NCHC members are asked to attend as many of the meetings as possible.
- Because of the conflict between the public meeting on Nov. 02 and the Commission's meeting on the same date, the November meeting of NCHC will be changed to Nov. 16. C. Sholberg will send out an e-mail to notify those not at today's meeting.

Comments from the Commission members:

- The public meeting gives the community an opportunity for input.
- Should we wait until the federal government makes its decision on the Foundry before taking ideas from the public on its re-use?
- Good idea to keep the process going as it shows we are being pro-active.
- Issue for NCHC is what we recommend as the best use for the building.
- The Commission is part of Council and we have to give our decision to them.

Questions to C. Sholberg:

- Q. Could this process become a policy for the Commission that could be used on other sites? E.g. Harewood School
- A. It is possible but this process was set up for the Foundry only.
- Q. Why is John Stewart not presenting at the session?
- A. Talked to J. Stewart but the City was looking for presenters who have experience with conserving a specific site (e.g. McLean Mill).

b) Nominations for National Historic Site Status – Application Status

C. Sholberg advised that:

- Contacted the federal department to ask if the old form could still be used. Was told that the new form has to be used and to do the best we can.

Comments from the Commission members:

- The new form is far too much work.
- Ask HSMBC directly about using the old form.
- Could a consultant be hired using the money from the Commission's budget?
- C. Meutzner and D. Hill-Turner will look into the availability of a few consultants and what the cost would be. Will e-mail Commission members when they have the information.

c) Next Heritage Walk Brochure – Millstone – NALT partnership?

D. Hill-Turner and C. Sholberg noted that:

- Nanaimo Area Land Trust (NALT) Society has done a walking tour for the Millstone River.
- Talk with Gail Adrienne of NALT about partnering with NCHC on a new brochure.

d) Heritage Commission Terms of Reference – review

C. Sholberg noted that the Terms of Reference were circulated at the previous meeting..

8. Late Items:

a) China Town Park

C. Parsley advised that this project has stalled and the Nanaimo Archaeological Society has done no further work on the proposal. The Society would appreciate any help that could be given by NCHC to bring the proposal to Council.

b) NCHC Commission

C. Parsley distributed copies of her observations on the performance of the Commission and went over all the items. The document is attached hereto as Appendix A. She made the following additional comments:

- Do not want the Commission to be elitist by accepting some presentations and not others.
- Should not have to apologize to the public for other Commission members conduct.

C. Sholberg noted that:

- Minutes are meant to capture the essence of discussion and any actions agreed to and not meant to be a verbatim record of the discussion.
- Commission is appointed by Council and it would be up to Council to remove any members.
- It is up to Council what, if any, issues they feel need to be referred to the Commission for input.
- Any changes to the Terms of Reference will need to be approved by Council.

Comments from the Commission members:

- When the new term of the Commission starts, have the orientation session include everyone, not just new members. This would be a good refresher.
- The new Commission appointed in 2006 could go over the Terms of Reference and make recommendations to Council for changes they feel are needed.
- Need feedback from Councillor L. Sherry on some of these issues.
- Have a heritage commission is not mandated under the Local Government Act.
- Think there are some good points made in the document.
- C. Sholberg and C. Meutzner do more of the work partly because they are professionals and have the skills to know more about the issues. Others could help them with research.
- At the beginning of each year, beside specific items on the work plan, put the name of the Commission member who will work on that issue.

c) Departure Bay Neighbourhood Plan

C. Sholberg noted that the Departure Bay Neighbourhood Association (DBNA) is just starting their neighbourhood planning process.

C. Meutzner advised that the DBNA have asked her for help in identifying their heritage sites. She also noted that:

- Would like to take steering committee members out to show them how to identify the type of place that can go on their list.

- Will go through the list they put together and help them identify what actual has heritage value.
- Show them how to write the statement for their neighbourhood plan.
- Doing this as a member of the NCHC.

d) Heritage Paint Out:

C. Sholberg advised that

- The Paint Out was very successful.
- Circulated pictures of the winning paintings and asked Commission members to advise him if they think any painting is of interest to be purchased by NCHC.
- Will e-mail the pictures to Commission members not in attendance today for their comment.

e) Heritage Home Tour:

C. Meutzner noted that

- The Home Tour went well with lots of positive feedback.
- Don't have a total of money made yet.
- Public would like to see this event continue but it is a lot of work.
- People didn't seem to mind that some of the homes were on the last tour.

f) Library Display:

C. Sholberg advised that the display was well received and the Library would be happy to host the display again.

C. Meutzner noted that the display generated an increase in the number of people wanting to do research on Nanaimo history at the Archives.

9. Committee Reports

There was not enough time remaining in the meeting to deal with this item so it was put over to the next meeting.

10. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 2005-Nov-16 in the City Hall Board Room.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

APPROVED:

Chair

Date

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