

**CITY OF NANAIMO**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NANAIMO COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION**  
**HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2004-NOV-03, AT 5:00 P.M.**  
**IN THE TRAINING ROOM, CITY HALL ANNEX**

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**Present:** David Hill-Turner  
Christine Meutzner  
Geraldine Manson  
John Nimmo

Colleen Parsley  
Joan Perry, Chair  
Councillor Loyd Sherry  
Jeff Thomas  
Laurie Waldie

Staff:

Chris Sholberg, Heritage Planner  
Fran Grant, Recording Secretary

**Regrets** Bill Gard John Hofman

**1. Call To Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair J. Perry at 5:05 p.m.

**2. Adoption of Minutes of 2004-Oct-04:**

MOVED by C. Meutzner, SECONDED by D. Hill-Turner, that the minutes of 2004-Oct.-04 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**3. Budget Review:**

C. Sholberg noted that there is \$2900 in the budget of uncommitted funds.

**4. Late Items**

There were no late items.

**5. Correspondence/Periodicals/Newsletters**

a) Heritage Canada Foundation – Financial Incentives Brief to the House of Commons

Copies were distributed for information.

**6. New Business**

a) Chinatown Heritage Conservation Area

Colleen Parsley noted that:

- There may be development going into the area as a lot of the land has been cleared of vegetation.

- She went with a group to the site and it looks as if some looting has occurred as some items have been left in plain view.
- Did some documentation and took photos.
- Contacted Imogene Lim (Anthropology Department, Malaspina University-College) to determine which areas are the most sensitive.
- Next step may be to invite members from the Chinese Cultural Assoc. to talk about the site.
- The property is privately owned.
- Including neighbourhood awareness may help to stop the looting.
- Work with the property's owner to try and preserve some of the items to be found.

C. Sholberg indicated that:

- He is looking at whether a Heritage Conservation Area applies to this property which would mean that a Heritage Alteration Permit would be required before development took place.
- Council would need to know the significance of the site and its importance before a report could go forward.

General comments from the Commission:

- Notify the property owner by letter about the significance of the site. This would start a paper trail with the owner seeking their cooperation in identifying the most important part of the site.
- NCHC could write to the Archeological Society to see if there is any interest in working together to protect this site.

C. Sholberg will draft a letter to the property owner outlining the heritage interest in the property to see if they would be interested in doing a survey.

b) Next Heritage Walk Brochure – content ideas

L. Waldie indicated that:

- Would like to start a new Heritage Walk Brochure.
- Some ideas are:
  - Sites of geological interest
  - First Nations heritage
  - Walk through time along the Millstone River.
  - Cemetery tours (some work done by students is available for this).

General comments from the Commission:

- Malaspina University-College is coming out with a geoscapes poster
- Like the idea of a walk along the Millstone River.

The Commission agreed that L. Waldie should continue working on a Millstone River brochure and bring it back to the Commission for review and comment once a draft has been created.

c) Painting Acquisition at future Paint-Outs

J. Perry noted that:

- The Commission had discussed at the last meeting the idea of purchasing one of the winning paintings from the Paint-Out.
- Perhaps a report should go to Council to see if they would support the purchase.

C. Sholberg advised that:

- A painting was purchased in 1999 as a result of an art event sponsored by the Commission.
- The Commission has supported heritage themed art events with funds since 1998.
- The Arts Council is planning to give one of this years paintings to the City as a thank you for supporting the event.

Comments from the Commission:

- Have to be careful that the purchase of a painting will not be treading on the toes of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission.
- Is it in the mandate of NCHC to purchase paintings?
- Encourage the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission to purchase a painting if they feel that is more appropriate.
- Purchasing a painting only when there is a heritage theme.

C. Sholberg indicated that:

- He will talk to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department about this idea of building a painting collection and report back to the Commission.
- Paintings that are purchased could be displayed on a rotating basis at different public venues.

## 7. **Old Business**

### a) Heritage Home Grant Program – report status

C. Sholberg distributed copies of the draft report and gave a brief overview. He also noted that:

- The report is being reviewed by senior staff.
- Any comments can be sent via e-mail to him.
- The proposed program follows along the lines of the Downtown Façade Improvement Program.

### b) Nominations for National Historic Site Status – report Status

C. Sholberg distributed copies of the draft report and gave a brief overview. He also noted that:

- Waiting for a letter of support from the First Nations.
- Any comments can be sent via e-mail to him.

### c) Update of City's Heritage Register – report status

C. Sholberg distributed copies of the draft report and gave a brief overview. He also noted that:

- C. Meutzner and C. Sholberg have updated some of the SOS.
- Five new properties have been added to the list.

- Recommendation is that Council replace the existing list with the updated version.
- Any comments can be sent via e-mail to him.

d) Heritage Building Book – alternatives?

C. Sholberg noted that:

- He and C. Meutzner have made corrections to 55 properties which leaves 45 to be done. Hope to have these finished by the end of March.
- Book or brochure could be done in-house on selected sites to lower the cost.

General comments and ideas from the Commission:

- Need to decide what is the point of the book and could it be achieved in a different format.
- A lot of people seem to enjoy the display boards.
- Put the money into a good display that could be moved around.
- Have 20 to 30 buildings in brochures.
- Put the entire registry on CDs.
- Information needs to be corrected first.

The Commission agreed park discussion on this issue until the new year.

e) Miners' Memorial Proposal – Status

C. Sholberg noted that:

- The sub-committee set up by the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission has not met yet.
- Will contact B. Meunier (Manager, Recreation Services) to find out what the sub-committee status is.

f) 55 Haliburton Dig – status

C. Parsley advised that:

- The dig has finished and a wrap up event is being held on Saturday, Nov. at 2:00 p.m. at the Museum. Members of NCHC are invited to attend.
- The deepest part of the dig went to 150 cm which revealed that there had been some type of post there at one time next to a road bed.
- The project was very successful and there will be a report generated early in 2005 documenting what was found and learned.

g) Heritage Summit –Feb 16, 2005:

C. Sholberg asked if the Commission was interested in sponsoring workshops on heritage home conservation or residential conversion along with the Heritage Summit.

General comments from the Commission:

- Have someone who is doing a conservation or conversion project in Nanaimo run the workshop.
- Have Ian Niamith or Jolyon Brown give a talk on possibilities for local residents.

- A local focus might bring a broader audience.
- There was not much interest in the how to paint your house topic previously.

It was decided that C. Sholberg or C. Meutzner will contact I. Niamith to see if he would be interested in participating.

h) City website – use stats

C. Sholberg circulated a copy of the statistics on the number of hits that the heritage component of the City's website receives and noted that it is in the top 10% of the sites for number of visits.

## 8. **Committee Reports**

a) Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee

J. Perry noted that:

- The November meeting will be a preview of applications for Urban Containment Boundary changes.
- The meetings for public consultation and recommendations to Council will be held in January.

b) Snuneymuxw First Nation

G. Manson noted that:

- Treaty process will start up again in the new year.
- Would like to know when the burial site plaque is going to be put into place so that a ceremony can be organized.

C. Sholberg noted that the burial site plaque will be installed as part of the larger Departure Bay Road upgrade project scheduled for spring or fall of 2005, subject to budget approval.

J. Thomas noted that:

- Two groups of students from Aspen Grove School were given tours of Newcastle Island about its early history.
- First Nations would like to have more notice to give them time to comment on major projects such as the New Nanaimo Centre.
- Congratulated the Commission on the amount of work they have done since he last sat on NCHC.

c) Nanaimo Community Archives Society

C. Meutzner advised that:

- Jean Barman and Stephen Hume will be doing book readings on Sat., Nov. 20, 2:30 p.m. at the site of the Old Book Store on Bastion Street.
- This will be a fund raiser for the Community Archives.
- Cost is \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors.
- The Archives web site now contains over 200 full level descriptions which will be very usefull for students.

d) Nanaimo District and Museum

D. Hill-Turner noted that:

- The British Columbia Museums Association Annual Conference held on Oct. 13-16 was very successful with over 200 participants.
- First part of the upper gallery has now been opened.

e) Design Advisory Panel

J. Hofman was not present at the meeting.

**9. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 2004-Dec-08 at the Dorchester Hotel followed by the year end dinner.

**10. Adjournment**

The meeting be adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

APPROVED:

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Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

CS/fg

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