

CITY OF NANAIMO

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NANAIMO COMMUNITY HERITAGE
COMMISSION HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2003-MAR-05, AT 5:00 P.M.
IN CONFERENCE ROOM #1, CITY HALL ANNEX, 238 FRANKLYN STREET**

PRESENT: Christine Meutzner, Chair
John Nimmo
Bill Gard
John Hofman
David Hill-Turner
Colleen Parsley
Joan Perry
Councillor Loyd Sherry

ABSENT: Geraldine Manson, Mary Durdle

STAFF: Chris Sholberg, Heritage Planner

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m.

C. Sholberg introduced new members of the Commission:
David Hill-Turner, Museum
Colleen Parsley, at-large member

C. Sholberg also introduced Mr. Chris Stevenson, Malaspina University-College student, as an observer. C. Stevenson is currently working with Chris on a comprehensive heritage building survey of the Old City Neighbourhood. Information gathered through this project will ultimately be used by the Commission for additions to the Heritage Register and to develop the proposed Heritage Conservation Area for the Old City Neighbourhood.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by B. Gard, SECONDED by J. Nimmo, that the minutes of the meeting held on 2003-Feb-05, be adopted.

CARRIED

3. BUDGET REVIEW

C. Sholberg reported that the budget is currently \$3,300.

4. LATE ITEMS

C. Sholberg advised that he had a late item to discuss at the end of the regular agenda.

5. CORRESPONDENCE/PERIODICALS/NEWSLETTERS

- (a) Building Community Heritage Tourism
- (b) Vancouver Heritage Foundation Newsletter
- (c) Heritage B.C. Newsletter (article on Nanaimo Tax Incentive Program)

Items (a) to (c) were received for information only.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- (a) Downtown Signage Study – Heritage Commission Representative – C. Sholberg reviewed the letter from Alison Millward, Social Planner, with the Commission. J. Hofman indicated interest in attending stakeholders group meetings on behalf of the Heritage Commission.

MOVED by J. Nimmo, SECONDED by D. Hill-Turner, that J. Hofman represent the Heritage Commission on the stakeholders group for the Downtown Signage Study.

CARRIED

- (b) The Occidental Hotel – Demolition Permit Report – C. Sholberg noted that the owner of the Occidental Hotel has submitted a Demolition Permit application to demolish the Occidental Hotel. Because the building is a listed heritage building located in the Downtown Heritage Conservation Area, a Heritage Alteration Permit must be issued by Council prior to a Demolition Permit being issued. Consequently, staff is waiting for a Heritage Alteration Permit application to be submitted by the owner. An information report went to Council on 2003-Feb-24 advising Council of the owner's intent and explaining the application process required for demolition. The motivation for demolition is based on the owner's frustration with the cost of seismically upgrading the upper floor, which is currently unused, and his desire to locate a liquor store on the site.

L. Sherry outlined Council's recent deliberations regarding liquor licensing in the downtown core and noted that Council adopted a policy not to permit new liquor stores in the downtown core.

A number of Commission Members indicated their desire to review applications and send comments to Council. C. Sholberg noted that if and when a Heritage Alteration Permit was submitted by the property owner, it would be referred to the Commission for comment.

- (c) Election of Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson for 2003

MOVED by B. Gard, SECONDED by J. Nimmo that C. Meutzner be elected Chairperson, and J. Hofman be elected Vice-Chairperson for one year.

CARRIED

7. OLD BUSINESS

- (a) Holland/Morrison Residence – 763 Albert Street – C. Meutzner noted that the condition of this building is poor – windows have been boarded up or broken. C. Meutzner suggested that the Commission review this building in the fall as part of the Heritage Register update process to ensure that the Commission still believes that this building should be on the Heritage Register. General discussion occurred around the possibility of creating an Anti-Neglect Bylaw. C. Sholberg noted that this was one of the objectives identified on the City's Heritage Action Plan, although it is not an immediate priority.
- (b) Interpretive Plaque Policy – C. Meutzner noted that she has been working on the policy along with J. Perry and that a draft should be ready for review by the Commission at its next meeting.
- (c) Cemetery Maintenance Policy – C. Sholberg noted that he has been working on this policy and that a draft should be ready for review by the Commission at its next meeting. J. Hofman suggested that when the policy goes to Council, the Commission should also recommend that small signs be put up at various cemeteries; Pioneer Park Cemetery in particular, advising public not to damage cemetery tombstones (i.e. break off pieces of tombstone).
- (d) Newcastle/Townsite Heritage Walk Brochure – J. Perry noted that she has been working with C. Meutzner on a draft version of the brochure and will likely have this ready for review by the Commission at its next meeting. General discussion occurred around the areas of historical shipyards and how these sites could be referenced in the brochure.
- (e) Pamela Mar Nomination for John Thomson Memorial Heritage Award – C. Sholberg noted that Mayor Korpan will be presenting the award, on behalf of the City, at the Nanaimo Community Archives AGM to be held 2003-Mar-27. C. Sholberg will prepare a press release after the event.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (a) Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee – no report.
- (b) Snuneymuxw First Nation - G. Manson was absent from the meeting. C. Sholberg was requested to contact Geraldine and ask whether she could e-mail the Commission with an update on any issues of relevance to the Snuneymuxw First Nation for the Commission agenda, in the event she or Richard White can't attend the Commission meeting.
- (c) Nanaimo Community Archives Society – C. Meutzner advised that the AGM will be held on Thursday, March 27, at 7:00 p.m., in the City Hall Council Chamber, 455 Wallace Street.
- (d) Nanaimo District and Museum – D. Hill-Turner noted that the Museum's AGM will be held on Tuesday, March 11, at 7:00 p.m., at the Museum (100 Cameron Road). He also noted that a new exhibit on Radio in Nanaimo recently opened, which includes CHUBB artifacts. He advised that the Museum is in the process of putting together a Harmac exhibit, and an exhibit which will feature the City's modern history (i.e. 1950s to present). Another exhibit called "100 years of Shellfish Aquaculture" will be opening June 21st.
- (e) Design Advisory Panel – C. Meutzner noted that the first orientation meeting of the Panel will be held on Tuesday, March 11. A question was raised as to

whether the Commission appointments to the Panel and PNAC need to be confirmed by Council? C. Sholberg will investigate and report back to the Commission.

9. LATE ITEMS

- (a) Buttertubs Marsh Society Open House – C. Sholberg advised that the Miner’s Cottage located on Third Street was opened to the public as part of the Buttertubs Marsh Society Open House. The Commission’s standard Heritage Register display was setup and a number of Heritage Commission Members attended to answer questions from the public.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 2003-Apr-02, at 5:00 p.m.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by J. Nimmo, SECONDED by B. Gard, that the meeting adjourn at 6:30 p.m.

CARRIED

APPROVED:

Chair

Date