

M I N U T E S
ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
COMMITTEE ROOM 2
THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2006 - 9:00 am

Present: Chair: Councillor Sanders
Members: P. Capek; B. Clarke; P. Cohen; V. Green; S. Gray; A. Lansdell; R. Mason
Staff: K. Kreiger, Director Parks and Recreation; A. Haney, Special Events
Coordinator; C. Duncan, Research Assistant, Archives; M. Brothers,
Committee Clerk
Guests: Councillor Brownoff
Regrets: K. Bridge, L. Kirstein

MINUTES: It was moved by S. Gray and seconded by V. Green: "That the May 25, 2006 minutes be amended to include 'the Heritage Interpretive Signs being installed at Dodd House will be used as the template for new heritage interpretive signs', and be adopted as amended."

CARRIED

HERITAGE BUS TOUR

The Research assistant reviewed the proposed details for the Heritage Bus Tour from this year, and noted:

- The tour is usually held on a Sunday near the end of September; Sunday September 17 would be a good date this year as it is far enough away from the Labour Day weekend, and another event will be held the following weekend.
- Previously, the tour has consisted of one forty-seven person bus which visits approximately five sites, two of which are stopped at and reviewed more thoroughly.
- A tea is held following the tour. Consideration could be given to holding the tea this year at the Cedar Hill Golf Course, at a cost of \$18.00 per person.
- Tickets for the entire event cost \$25.00 per person last year.
- The Archivist considers which sites have been visited recently when selecting the sites for the tour.

Committee discussion noted:

- Consideration should be given to a more detailed program leaflet to accompany the tour, and whether the sites can be tied in with the Centennial Book.
- Ticket prices could be increased to \$30.00 without being prohibitive.

It was the consensus of the Committee that a subcommittee be formed to assist with the organization of the bus tour. Interested members included P. Cohen, S. Gray, V. Green, A. Lansdell, and R. Mason.

WORK PLAN

The Chair noted that the Director of Parks and Recreation is creating a tentative work plan with the initiatives identified at the workshop in April. The plan is to be reviewed by the Committee regarding which initiatives members want to contribute towards and which should be handed over completely to staff.

The Director of Parks and Recreation has begun discussing the work plan with the other departments who would be involved. Committee members are asked to contact the Director of Parks and Recreation with any input on specific initiatives.

It was the consensus of the Committee that members would email the Director of Parks and Recreation regarding clarification of the workshop initiative "have civic spending policies on arts, culture and heritage link to community needs" within the next thirty days. The initiative will otherwise be considered a lower priority.

COMMUNITY ARTS WEEK

The Special Events Coordinator reviewed the 2006 Community Arts Awareness Week, and in response to committee discussion from the meeting previous noted:

- The studio tours were a great success, and there is the possibility of more tours next year.
- More than ten thousand dollars in donations was received, both in cash and in kind, for Community Arts Week. Thank you to all our sponsors, including the Community Arts Council for their generous donation of five hundred dollars.
- The suggestion to align the date of the Community Arts Week with the Provincial Arts and Culture Week may also effect the date of studio tours.
- The attendance for the Opening Event was between 800 and 1,000 people, and it has outgrown the Cedar Hill Recreation Gym facilities.
- It is important to the community that admission to this event, including the activities and the entertainment, remain free.
- The Silent Auction raised over one thousand dollars this year, and there are still four items left. Members are asked to contact the Special Events Coordinator if interested in bidding.

The Director of Parks and Recreation noted:

- Due to increasing attendance, the tennis courts at Cedar Hill have been tentatively booked for next year in addition to the gymnasium.
- Previously, the cost for the Opening Event has been absorbed into Cedar Hill's operational budget; however, the expansion would mean additional costs for extra staffing needs and the loss of the revenue from closing the tennis court. There will also be an increase in the expense of the display layout.
- Recreation will be hiring a Special Events Coordinator who will have a support function with the Opening Event and the Community Arts Week in 2007. The position will likely be filled by late summer early fall.

Committee discussion noted:

- Renting a tent would be one option for increasing the available space for the Opening Event.
- In order to defray increased costs, consideration could be given to increasing the charge per display which is currently ten dollars.

It was the consensus of the Committee that a subcommittee be formed to assist with the organization of the Opening Event for Community Arts Week 2007. Interested members included B. Clarke, P. Cohen, and R. Mason.

HERITAGE POSTERS

The Chair noted that she had discussed the process previously used to create the heritage posters with S. Colwill of the Saanich Heritage Foundation, and that it is important to choose a design theme that will capture interest.

The Research Assistant noted:

- A new heritage inventory is coming out this year, and consideration could be given to incorporating those photos into a new poster.
- The “Preserving Heritage” Panel could be reduced to poster size, but the text identifying the structures would be illegible.
- Another option for a design theme would be photos of significant heritage structures depicting specific styles such as Queen Anne or Arts and Crafts.

The Director of Parks and Recreation noted:

- The staff member who would be producing the graphic design for the poster has regular responsibilities and so would likely require between two to three months to complete the poster after the design theme is identified.

Committee discussion noted:

- Glendale Gardens will be holding an auction from the beginning of July to mid-August for paintings depicting heritage buildings in Saanich, and consideration could be given to incorporating the paintings or their subjects into the poster design theme.

It was the consensus of the Committee that a subcommittee be formed to assist in organizing the design and production of the Heritage Poster. Interested members included B. Clarke, S. Gray, and A. Lansdell.

CENTENNIAL PROJECT

The Chair reviewed the suggestions submitted for a Committee Centennial project and noted:

- Though the Heritage Panels and the Banner Project are both Centennial Projects, once they are eventually taken down there will be no permanent Centennial project from this Committee.
- Through the fundraising efforts of the Special Events Coordinator for Community Arts Week Opening Event, there are some funds available.
- Suggestions included a fountain, sculpture, time capsule, sun dial, and a permanent flag pole at Cedar Hill Recreation Centre.

MOTION: Moved by P. Cohen and seconded by S. Gray, “That the Committee approve the expenditure of between \$500.00 and \$1,000.00 towards a permanent Centennial project”.

CARRIED

FCM FOLLOW-UP

The Chair noted that this item will be postponed to September meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Chair noted that the Committee had received a letter of thanks from P. Freeman and J. Saracuse for the letter of support for the proposed Mount Douglas Fine Arts Centre, and a letter from the Chair of the District 61 School Board acknowledging their interest in discussing the possibility of a cost-sharing arrangement with the Municipality. A letter was also written describing the positive experience a resident had serving on a Saanich public art jury.

UTILITY BOX COVERS

Councillor Brownoff, Chair of the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee, made a presentation regarding their progress on the project to cover utility boxes with artistic or historical photograph wraps as an anti-graffiti measure, and noted:

- While no response has been received from BC Hydro, Telus is interested in participating and contributing financially.
- The Sign Shop is able to produce the wraps, and it is more cost-effective to use a few images. Some funds from Saanich's graffiti removal program will also be available to assist in funding the wraps.
- The Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee is currently focusing on wrapping the Saanich and Telus utility boxes along the Shelbourne Corridor. These wraps will depict heritage photographs of the area.
- The Chair of the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee and the Director of Engineering will return to this Committee in the fall with an update on the project.

Committee discussion noted:

- In addition to heritage photographs, consideration could be given to depictions of natural scenes, and community groups, studio tours or local artists' work on beautifying the boxes.
- As letters from Saanich staff have not produced a response, consideration should be given to this Committee writing a letter to BC Hydro recommending their participation in and/or funding of this project as a responsible corporate citizen.

MOTION: Moved by B. Clarke and seconded by S. Gray, "That the Committee endorse in principle the wrapping of Saanich utility boxes, working in partnership with the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee".

CARRIED

HEALTHY COMMUNITY THEME PROGRESS

The Director of Parks and Recreation circulated copies of the Healthy Community excerpt from the Saanich Progress Report to the Committee and noted:

- An Annual Progress Report is required by the Community Charter, and this excerpt refers to the progress of the Municipality in 2005 on the initiatives identified in the Healthy Community Theme.
- Of the fourteen initiatives planned, eight have been completed, four were in progress by the year's end, and four were rescheduled.
- Some highlights include the Heritage Panels, the still-developing Saanich Heritage Action Plan, and the hiring of the Community Arts and Culture Coordinator who has planned the first Saanich Summer School for the Arts.
- Progress on increasing facilities available for arts and culture programming included Saanich entering partnerships and joint use agreements with Colquitz, Gordon Head and Royal Oak Middle School, and approving the first phase of the Cedar Hill Recreation expansion.
- A draft of the Arts and Culture Action Plan will be coming to the Committee for review in the fall, and work is still progressing on the Heritage Action Plan.

Committee discussion noted:

- It is of key importance to keep an equal emphasis on heritage accomplishments and initiatives in future Strategic Plans and subsequent progress reports.

MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL

The Director of Parks and Recreation noted that due to concerns raised at the Multicultural Festival a crosswalk installation at Saanich Commonwealth Place is being incorporated into Engineering's departmental work plan.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting will be held on Thursday September 28th, 2006 at 9:00 am in Committee Room 2.

Councillor Vicki Sanders, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary