

M I N U T E S
ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
COMMITTEE ROOM 2
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2006 - 9:00 am

Present: Chair: Councillor Sanders
Members: P. Capek; B. Clarke; V. Green; S. Gray; A. Lansdell; R. Mason
Staff: K. Kreiger, Director of Parks and Recreation; S. Hvozdzanski, Community Planner, Planning; C. Duncan, Research Assistant, Archives; D. Thorpe, Community Services Programmer, Recreation; M. Brothers, Committee Clerk
Regrets: K. Bridge; P. Cohen

MINUTES: It was moved by S. Gray and seconded by V. Green: "That the June 22, 2006 minutes be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

WORK PLAN

The Director of Parks and Recreation reviewed a draft work plan to implement the initiatives identified at the workshop in April of this year, and noted:

- The work plan has a column identifying the "Action", Responsibility" and "Completion Date" currently established for each initiative.
- Some initiatives will rely heavily on committee involvement.

P. Capek entered the meeting at 9:10 am

- Several initiatives will fall under the Heritage Action Plan being developed by the Community Planner, the draft of which will return to the Committee for comment.
- Engineering will review the existing sign plan and present an updated version for Committee consideration.
- While Lambrick Park may have limitations as a site for a "Heritage Village"; alternative means of implementing the idea will be considered, including partnering with other organizations.
- Muze Creative has created a poster from the images used to produce the Heritage Panels.
- Parks staff is working with the Heritage Foundation to develop heritage signage for Dodd House, which will be used as a template for future heritage signage.
- As part of the Heritage Action Plan, the Community Planner will be evaluating the potential for heritage walks similar to those done by the City of Victoria and the District of Central Saanich.

R. Mason left the meeting at 9:20 am

- The Research Assistant will ensure the proper storage of the heritage panels in the Archives, while J. Evans in Planning will organize the circulation schedule.
- Significant committee involvement is welcome and expected in formulating Heritage Awareness Week, in coordination with the Heritage Foundation.
- Staff turnover in the web developer position may cause some delay in progress regarding the website initiative.
- Initiatives regarding Oral History and Art for and by Older Adults are basically expansions on already existing ideas and projects. Please contact the appropriate staff with suggestions and comments.

B. Clarke entered the meeting at 9:35 am

- As the marketing specialist position has just been filled, there may be some delay on progress in Branding Policy initiatives. It is important that any branding be consistent with Saanich's overall branding program. The marketing specialist will hold a workshop with the Committee in regards to this initiative.
- The Centennial Banner Project spearheaded by the former Community Arts Advisory Committee has resulted in permanent banner hardware. An ongoing Banner Program will be developed.

Committee discussion noted:

- P. Cohen originally suggested "Buy a Brick" as a fundraising method.
- The Chair will confirm if the heritage poster created by Muze Creative could be used by the Committee.
- A. Lansdell expressed interested in the heritage walking plans initiative.
- The Chair and the Community Services Programmer will work with the website developer in regards to listing current Arts projects; the Community Planner and the Archives Research Assistant will do an inventory the current heritage information available on the website.

HERITAGE BUS TOUR

The Archives Research Assistant provided the Committee with an update on the Heritage Bus Tour held two weekends prior to the meeting, and noted:

- A total of 53 people participated.
- The bus company sent one small bus and a van, and as a result the people in the van did not get the commentary. Due to this mistake, the company will only charge for the small bus.
- The bus driver varied the route which made it difficult for the commentator. An alternative may be to have Recreation staff with the appropriate drivers license drive the bus instead.
- The tea at the Cedar Hill Golf Course in addition to a talk by Bill Irvine was well received.
- A brochure would be a welcome addition.
- Consideration could be given to bringing in an alternative or additional speaker such as an archaeologist, geologist or garden historian. This might expand the tour group audience.
- Setting the tour date in the spring would allow various heritage groups to include the event in their newsletters, as well as advertising the event in the Saanich Active Living Guide.

Committee discussion noted:

- Consideration could be given to including St. Luke's Church and cemetery in the tour next year, and then holding the tea at the church hall.

COMMUNITY ARTS WEEK

The Chair reported on the subcommittee's suggestions regarding Community Arts Week in 2007, noting:

- Moving the Community Arts Week to coincide with BC Arts Week, typically held in the last week of April, will assist in event promotion. As a result, the event will be held on April 28 in 2007. Instead of the "Opening Event", it will be called the "Arts Celebration".
- As Cedar Hill Recreation Centre will be being undergoing renovation during the time of the event, expanding the Arts Celebration Event will require using the tennis court area.

- The Community Services Programmer will be organizing Community Art Week and the Arts Celebration Event this year, and a working subcommittee to assist her would be very helpful.
- There was a suggestion that awards could be presented this year to one artist in four different mediums (performing, sculpture, painting, e.g.), and that attendees at the event would vote to determine the recipients. Unfortunately, the majority of Capital Regional District funding goes to “Pro-Arts” such as ballet and opera, with little available for community arts. As a result, funding was not available to pursue this suggestion in 2007.
- The Greater Victoria Community Arts Council plans to significantly contribute to this event in 2008 and is applying to the province for funding.

The Director of Parks and Recreation noted:

- It will be challenging to create a vibrant feel to the Arts Celebration Event as the tennis courts are too large for the amount of attendees if there is not sufficient funding to ensure an appropriate set up.

MOTION: It was moved by B. Clarke and seconded by P. Capek: “That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee endorses the recommendations made by the subcommittee in regards to the Arts Celebration Event and Community Arts Week 2007, including that it be held during BC Arts Week and that the Arts Celebration Event take place in the tennis courts at the Cedar Hill Recreation Centre”.

Committee discussion noted:

- Members interested in the working subcommittee include the Chair, P. Capek, B. Clarke, P. Cohen, and R. Mason.

CENTENNIAL PROJECT

The Chair noted that the Cedar Hill Recreation Centre was undertaking a project which might be appropriate for this Committee to contribute to as its Centennial Project. After confirming if assistance would be welcome, the Chair will report back to the Committee.

UTILITY BOX COVERS - UPDATE

The Chair stated that Councillor Brownoff has contacted a higher level of administration at BC Hydro, but still has not received a strongly positive response.

FCM - UPDATE

In June the Chair attended the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) conference. She provided an update to the Committee on this conference and noted:

- Montreal has amazing cultural development programs in effect; please see the available brochures.
- Consideration should be given in the future to becoming a Cultural Capital due to the significant federal funding opportunities available.

ART DISPLAY GALLERIES

The Chair noted that the currently available method for hanging work in the gallery space at the Municipal Hall is very laborious and that a more user-friendly method, similar to that used at Goward House, has been approved for use by the Administrator.

Committee discussion noted that feedback should be provided on the new hanging method's professional appearance.

ARCHIVES TOUR

In response to the Chair's enquiry, it was the consensus of the Committee that the October meeting be held at the Cedar Hill Recreation Centre Gallery and that the November meeting include a tour of the Archives.

STUDENT MEMBER

The Chair noted:

- In order to create continuity in committee membership, consideration could be given to having a requirement that the student representative be in grade 10 or 11, or alternatively that there be two student representatives – one junior and one senior.

Committee discussion noted:

- A. Lansdell would be interested in canvassing secondary schools for student members.

MOTION: It was moved by S. Gray and seconded by V. Green: "That the Committee endorses recruiting from secondary schools for grade 10 or 11 student members".

CEDAR HILL ART GALLERY

The Director of Parks and Recreation noted:

- Wall covering and lighting has been installed to produce gallery space at Cedar Hill Recreation Centre.
- An exhibit is currently being displayed, four pieces from which have been sold.
- Both facility staff and artists are pleased with the space, and the space is scheduled for exhibitions into January 2007.
- This space will be kept as a gallery even after phase II of the Cedar Hill Recreation Centre Renovation is complete.

COMMITTEE FUNDS

The Chair noted that a total of \$4,500.00 was raised by Anna Haney's efforts for the Community Arts Week in previous years. There will not be operating funds provided in the future.

MOTION: It was moved by A. Lansdell and seconded by S. Gray: "That \$1,000.00 of the funds available to the Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee be used for the Centennial Project, and that the remaining \$3,500.00 be carried forward for use as operating funds in the following year".

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

The Branch Manager for the Royal Bank at Burnside and Tillicum sent in a letter offering display space to local artists. It was the consensus of the Committee that the Community Services Programmer follow up with the Royal Bank and the Greater Victoria Community Arts Council "Phantom Galleries" regarding this offer.

COMMUNITY ARTS PROGRAMS – UPDATE

The Community Services Programmer noted:

- The usual summer programs such as Art in the Park and Gorge on Art went well.
- The first Saanich Summer School of the Arts was a successful experiment; attendees were particularly impressed by Colquitz Middle School.
- Music in the Park was held in coordination with the Quadra Cedar Hill Community Association.
- Upcoming programs include a youth documentary photography project and a lecture series on public art.

SCARECROW FESTIVAL

P. Capek suggested consideration be given in the future to a scarecrow festival, similar to one held in Nova Scotia, as it is uniquely appropriate for Saanich due to its rural and agricultural heritage.

Committee discussion noted that Heritage Acres may be having an event connected to scarecrows.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting will be held on Thursday October 26th, 2006 at 9:00 am in the lounge at the Cedar Hill Recreation Centre.

Councillor Vicki Sanders, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary