

M I N U T E S
ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
COMMITTEE ROOM 2, MUNICIPAL HALL
THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2007 - 9:00 am

Present: Chair: Councillor Derman
Members: H. Bowman; K. Bridge; P. Cohen; S. Gray; V. Green; A. Lansdell
Staff: S. Hvozdzanski, Supervisor of Strategic Planning; C. Duncan, Research Assistant,
Archives; D. Thorpe, Community Arts Specialist; T. Douglas, Committee Clerk
Assistant
Regrets: P. Capek; A. Haney; K. Krieger

MINUTES: Moved by S. Gray and seconded by P. Cohen: "That the minutes of the February 22, 2007 meeting be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Councillor Derman added "Arts Policy" discussion under New Business, and he stated that Sharon Hvozdzanski will provide an update on the 2007 Official Community Plan Review.

STATUS OF ITEMS UNDER CURRENT CONSIDERATION

A) COMMUNITY ARTS WEEK

Ms. Thorpe provided an information regarding Community Arts Week, and the following was noted:

- Posters and brochures are ready for circulation. Schools, libraries, community centres, etc., have received these for distribution.
- Press releases have been sent out, and the website will be updated. The April issue of Island Parent Magazine will contain an advertisement.
- Various studio tours will occur in May, and the Gallery Café at Cedar Hill Recreation Centre will provide information to the public in this regard. Saanich Municipal Hall will have an exhibit of a combination of artists.
- The Celebration of the Arts, Saturday, April 28 will highlight visual and performing artists, art-making activities, ceramic sale, silent auction and guest artist, Barbara Weaver-Bosson.
- Set-up day is scheduled for April 28, 2007, from 8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Concern was raised about the set-up time, and Ms. Thorpe will ask Ms. Haney to inquire about moving the set-up time to start at 7:00 a.m.

Ms. Cohen provided an update regarding the entertainment being provided, and noted that the special guest this year will be Barbara Weaver-Bosson. She reported the addition of the City of Gardens Choir, and stated that the program will commence with the singing of O Canada at approximately 10:55 a.m., followed by the Gospel Choir and the introduction and speeches by Mayor, Councillors and guests. Some of the entertainment being provided includes:

- The Advanced Jazz team
 - Spilt Milk group
 - Punjabi dancers
 - Alma de Espana Flamenco dancers
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- Fiddlers
- Hawaiian Hula dancers
- Veselka Ukrainian dancers
- Reynolds dance team

Committee members discussed funding and it was noted that donations for the auction can be given to Ms. Haney directly. A discussion ensued regarding funding, and the following motion was passed:

MOTION: Moved by S. Gray and seconded by P. Cohen, “That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee send a letter to Council requesting funding for the Celebration of the Arts/ Community Arts Week.”

Motion Carried

Councillor Derman suggested that the committee may wish to request that expenses be shared on a 50/50 basis with the municipality, and he stated that he will work with staff to prepare a draft letter to Council in this regard. Once drafted, the letter will be circulated to committee members for review.

A question was raised about the annual appointments of Council members to committees, and Councillor Derman advised that these appointments are made by the Mayor. Committee members discussed sending a letter to the Mayor in the future regarding the need for continuity in terms of Council representation. This matter will be brought forward for discussion at the April or May ACH meeting.

B) REPAIR AND/OR UPGRADE TO CENTENNIAL HERITAGE PANELS

Ms. Duncan provided an update regarding the deterioration of 15 Centennial Heritage panels that are exhibited at various venues throughout the district. She took two sample panels to “Sign of the Times” for their opinion on the deterioration, and was told the following:

- The panels printed by MUSE were likely printed with water-based ink, and the magenta has faded, resulting in the signs turning a greenish tone. The next colour that fades will likely be yellow, which will leave the signs with a bluish tone.
- The signs cannot be repaired, but they can be reprinted.
- Sign of the Times uses a solvent-based ink, which is less vibrant, but is more stable. This ink has a 3-5 year outdoor lifespan and the signs are covered with UV coating. Some fading will occur, but not in the same manner that the water-based ink fades.

A discussion ensued, and it was noted that MUSE did not mention that their inks may fade. Committee members could not recall if there was a guarantee on the original panels. Councillor Derman offered to arrange a meeting with MUSE to discuss how this issue can be resolved to the Committee’s satisfaction.

A question was raised about the signage at Dodd house, and it was noted that the sign shop at Saanich printed those signs.

COMMUNITY ARTS - MARCH 2007

Councillor Derman expressed appreciation regarding the Community Arts Week poster that was re-designed by Councillor Sanders in a very tasteful and professional manner.

Committee members agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent to both Councillor Sanders and Tracy Yerrell for their good work on the poster.

Ms. Thorpe stated that a framework for "Community Strategy for Arts and Cultural Service Delivery" was completed at the end of 2006. Working with Common Ground, consultation sessions will be held this spring with Parks and Recreation staff, community groups, and artists and art groups. She invited committee members to join with the Saanich Community Association Network to attend a two part consultation session being held May 2, 2007, from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the Kirby Room, and on June 20, 2007, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Cedar Hill Community Centre Senior's Wing.

Ms. Thorpe circulated a handout with the above-noted information, and which also included information regarding:

- "RiverSong: Sing the Salmon Home", a community cultural development process leading up to a first year pilot project on River's Day, September 30th. This is a collaboration between Saanich Parks and Recreation, Gorge Tillicum Community Association and Professional artists, Paula Jardine and Carolyn Knight;
- "SongCircle", a community choir that regularly meets with facilitators Carolyn Knight and Paulette Wilkins at Colquitz Middle School. This initiative will lead to singing at special events, including "RiverSong: Sing the Salmon Home" on River's Day, September 30th; and,
- "Land Marks – A Lecture Series on Public Art", that was held on March 14, 2007, and organized by the District of Saanich, Township of Esquimalt, the City of Victoria and CRD Arts Development.

2007 OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN (OCP) REVIEW UPDATE

Ms. Hvozdzanski circulated a memo to committee members regarding the 2007 Official Community Plan Review, with attached report to Council regarding the OCP Review Work Schedule, and the following was noted:

- Council endorsed the review process at their March 5th meeting.
- The section on Heritage and Arts in the existing OCP is thin, and the hope is to improve this section of the OCP.
- Public input on the draft OCP is targeted to occur before the summer. Input will be collected in the following manner: on-line, at open houses, by telephone survey, and via focus groups.
- Input will also be gathered from Committees, Council, staff members, external agencies, and the public.
- June through September the new OCP will be drafted based upon the information gathered.
- September-November, the draft OCP will be presented at open houses, on-line, and to committees. Revisions will be done based upon feedback received.
- The goal is to have the new OCP before Council in early 2008.

Concern was expressed about the public's willingness to participate in a telephone survey. It was noted that information regarding the telephone surveys will be advertised in advance in the Saanich News. It was further noted that the focus group work will be undertaken by "R.A."

Malatest and Associates Ltd.” market research, and will include senior and youth groups. Ms. Thorpe requested that the Recreation Department be invited to the senior and youth focus groups.

Councillor Derman suggested, and committee members agreed, that the item “Saanich General Plan” be discussed for the May committee agenda. Copies of the Plan are to be provided to committee members at the April meeting.

CRD FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Ms. Cohen stated that in order to obtain funding from the CRD for the Arts, a registered non-profit group needs to be established.

A discussion ensued regarding possible ways a registered society could be established, and whether it would be worthwhile approaching registered non-profit community organizations to take an umbrella role for the Arts Event, and work in conjunction with the committee. It was suggested that the Gorge Tillicum Community Association be invited to discuss non-profit association operations.

This issue will be discussed further at the April committee meeting.

HERITAGE BUS TOUR

Ms. Duncan noted that a heritage bus tour is being arranged for September. Committee members K. Bridge, V. Green, S. Gray, and A. Lansdell agreed to be members of a sub-committee in this regard.

REPAIR OF EXISTING PUBLIC ART AT PEARKES

S. Hvozdanski stated that the floor at Pearkes is being repaired and the artist is involved in the restoration, and it will be closer to the end of the year when the floor is completed.

ARCHIVES UPDATE

Caroline Duncan distributed an Archives update for the committee’s information. A goal is to digitize Saanich’s archival photographic collection, however there is not enough staff resources to perform this task. Archives was successful in its grant application to the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre at the University of British Columbia, and will receive a grant for \$14,445 to digitize 2,500 images from the archives collection of historic photographs. In order to secure the grant, Saanich Council will need to approve the matching portion of the funds.

This task fits in with the following points of the Heritage Action Plan:

Goal 1: Protect existing resources.

- Objective A, Action 2 (automate and digitize archival collections)

Goal 3: Promote Heritage Awareness.

- Objective G, Action 1 (provide access to archival resources through the Saanich website)
- Objective H (increase awareness of Saanich archives).

Council will consider approval of this funding at the March 26, 2007 Council meeting.

MOTION: **Moved by P. Cohen and Seconded by A. Lansdell: “That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee strongly supports the request to Council to match the UBC matching grant for the digitizing the Archival Photo Collection.”**

Motion Carried

SAANICH POLICY FOR PROTECTION HERITAGE VALUES ASSOCIATED WITH MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

Councillor Derman noted that the district has a number of heritage buildings, and there is no policy on how they are managed. He noted that Dodd House is one of the few exceptions in terms of being managed, and he expressed concern that the Kayak/Canoe Club is not a managed site. It was noted that each building is different in terms of caretakers/operators, and the repairs that are made. Saanich Volunteer Services receives assistance from various organizations, but there is no set policy regarding managing heritage sites. Councillor Derman stated that he has spoken with Neil Findlow, Planning Supervisor, who will provide a report to Council regarding this matter.

NEW BUSINESS

Arts Policy

Councillor Derman suggested that the Arts Policy requires reviewing, and inquired as to how the policy is reflected in the general plan. A copy of the Arts Policy will be provided to committee members at the April meeting for discussion at the May meeting.

The question was asked regarding how proactive the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee needs to be for the Heritage Action Plan, considering this is a volunteer committee. Councillor Derman suggested that the committee revisit the policy, and discuss/map-out a work plan in the future.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting will be held on **Thursday, April 26, 2007**, at 9:00 a.m. in Committee Room 2.

Councillor Vic Derman, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary