

MINUTES
ARTS CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
HELD IN COMMITTEE ROOM #2
THURSDAY, June 25, 2009 AT 9:04 a.m.

Present: Chair: Councillor Derman
Members: P. Capek; D. Christy; J. George; V. Green; A. Lansdell and K. Johnson.
Staff: K. Kreiger, Director of Parks and Recreation; D. Thorpe, Community Arts Specialist; J. Evans, Research Planner; and M. Brothers, Committee Clerk.
Guest: P. McKivett, Saanich Legacy Foundation

Regrets: P. Cohen; S. Hallsor

MINUTES

Moved by P. Capek and Seconded by V. Green, "That the minutes of the May 28, 2009 meeting be adopted as circulated".

CARRIED

STATUS REPORT – CEDAR HILL ARTS WING/DAVID FOSTER ARTS CENTRE

The Chair noted:

- At the suggestion of Mayor Leonard, the Cedar Hill Arts Centre will be named after David Foster, who was raised in Saanich; a sound studio will be incorporated into the centre in his honour.
- Committee members should email staff as soon as possible with any suggested changes.

The Director of Parks and Recreation noted:

- Other additions to the centre's design include: connecting doors between the new arts studios, which can be opened to produce a larger space for special events; and garage doors to the pottery studio, which open onto an outdoors pottery court.
- Though the cost of constructing the centre is more expansive than was originally planned, staff can now begin to seek out granting opportunities.

In response to committee discussion, the Director of Parks and Recreation noted:

- The room identified in the floor plan as "multipurpose" can serve as space for preschool programming; it includes wash room and kitchen facilities.
- The total expansion will be approximately 7,000 square feet.

The Chair read out a letter from the Saanich Legacy Foundation, dated June 16, 2009, detailing the foundation's interest in raising funds for the David Foster Arts Centre to provide furnishings for a sound stage/room and a display area for David Foster memorabilia.

P. McKivett noted:

- The foundation wants to be involved with the fundraising for the centre; members have been looking for a project which would help raise the foundation's profile.
- As a registered non-profit organization, the foundation will be able to apply for some grants not available to municipal governments and can also provide tax receipts to donors.
- V. Green can serve as a liaison between the foundation and the committee.

In response to P. McKivett, the Chair noted:

- The foundation's involvement sounds like a mutually beneficial opportunity.
- He will contact local members of Parliament and the Legislative Assembly to encourage support for funding the centre from higher levels of government.

STATUS REPORT – HERITAGE BUS TOUR

V. Green circulated copies of the proposed poster for the Heritage Bus Tour and noted:

- The Heritage Bus Tour poster could be produced with a purple or red colour scheme.
- There will be advertisements in the August issues of the Active Living Guide and the Seaside News.
- The tour will disembark at two of the six Anglican churches to be visited.

In response to a question from the committee, V. Green noted that the Seaside News is distributed in Sidney and Saanich.

It was the consensus of the committee that the red colour scheme was preferred for the Heritage Bus Tour Poster.

EXAMPLES OF HERITAGE AND CULTURE PROMOTION

The Research Planner noted:

- Most mobile media heritage and cultural tours seem to be run by private companies; some tours are available for download onto cellphones, others onto iPods.
- A free mobile media tour was supported by a local radio station in Kingston, Ontario.
- It is possible that the Information Technology Division would require additional funding to accommodate a mobile media heritage tour on the Saanich website; the Saanich Heritage Walking Tour brochures are already available for download in a printable format.
- At the Heritage BC Conference, attendees visited the Kelowna Heritage Cultural District, which includes heritage buildings, museums, art galleries, stores and public art; there were tours of the area available and excellent kiosks, which provided information on the area and on upcoming events.
- The kiosk at Ogden Point could also be considered as a proto-type for Saanich heritage kiosks.
- The Sidney Museum received an award for its interpretive signage on the Sidney boardwalk; consideration could be given to contacting the producers to create similar signage for Saanich.

The Chair noted:

- Consideration could be given to installing a Saanich kiosk at the Gorge from which users could download a mobile media tour, though security would be an issue.
- A kiosk similar to the one located near the Selkirk trestle would cost approximately \$30,000, though a smaller and less expensive version might be available; discussion will need to be undertaken with Parks to determine what kind of kiosk would be appropriate.

SUMMER ARTS AND CULTURE EVENTS IN SAANICH

The Community Arts Specialist distributed a listing of Music in the Park events and the Sumer School of the Arts Adult Program.

The Chair noted:

- He attended approximately five events from the Music in the Park series last year, which were excellent.
- The Music in the Park series was begun by a Saanich resident, Ms. M. Bachmann, with the assistance of the municipality.
- It would be great if all the summer event information could be included on a single poster for display at the recreation centres.

The Community Arts Specialist noted that the Riverstone/Riversong project resulted in the creation of beautiful mosaic stepping stones by students from the Colquitz Middle School, which were meant to enhance the children's connection to the salmon-bearing Colquitz River; the stepping stones will be installed by Saanich Parks in a pathway along the river near the school.

The Research Planner noted that the summer events poster proposed by the Chair could be

similar to those provided in the Kelowna heritage and culture kiosks.

COMMUNITY ARTS AWARENESS WEEK REPORT AND BUDGET

The Community Arts Awareness Week 2009 Report dated May 20, 2009 and the Community Arts Week Budget 2009 were originally circulated to the committee for their meeting on May 28, 2009.

The Chair noted that there were changes made to this year's Community Arts Awareness Week which were a step in the right direction; investments were made to create events with a track record to encourage sponsorship.

The Community Arts Specialist noted:

- In the evaluation for the Carnival of the Arts, there was a note made of the crowding at the event; the proposed renovations at Cedar Hill may address this issue.
- A report on the grant received for the carnival will be submitted in September and consideration could be given to applying for to the same program for next year's event; this year, staff applied to the grant program for \$10,000 and received \$5,100.

In response to questions from the committee, the Community Arts Specialist noted:

- The grant manager indicated that carrying forward funds for the carnival from the previous year worked against Saanich's application.
- The intention of the grant program is to increase participation in community arts, specifically through performers and volunteers.

SAANICH ARCHIVES UPDATE

The Chair noted:

- The Archives Supervisor recently attended a course on First Nations history and will be bringing forward an initiative to this committee as a result.
- To date, this committee has been primarily concerned with promoting the post-colonial history of Saanich.
- Currently, Saanich is upgrading Gyro Park, which is an important First Nations site.

Committee discussion noted that it would be excellent to have a First Nations representative on the committee.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

NEXT MEETING:

The next Arts and Culture Advisory Committee meeting will be held on September 24, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in Committee Room 2.

Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary