

MINUTES of the meeting of the OAK BAY HERITAGE STEERING COMMITTEE, held in the Council Chambers, Oak Bay Municipal Hall, 2167 Oak Bay Avenue, Oak Bay B.C., on Thursday April 12, 2007.

PRESENT: Mayor Christopher Causton, Chairman
Jane Nielsen
W. John Harker
Don Reksten
Christopher Watts
Stephanie Sainas
Jean Sparks
STAFF: Nigel Beattie, Sandi Piercy

Mayor Christopher Causton called the meeting to order at 8:32 am.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the Heritage Workshop on March 24, 2007. Sparked by the workshop, Council discussed the Lansdowne Slope at its meeting the following Monday. Council is waiting to see if the FAR (Floor Area Ratio) bylaw is adopted before getting further involved with the issues on the Lansdowne Slope. A Public Meeting will be held on April 24 regarding the FAR bylaw.

The Chair reminded the committee that apart from Forced Designation there is another way to save some of our heritage buildings; the owners of the building may enter into a Heritage Revitalization Agreement to be able to increase density.

The Committee will not be submitting applications for the Hallmark Awards.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by Jean Sparks

Seconded by Christopher Watts, THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE OAK BAY HERITAGE STEERING COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2007 AND THURSDAY MARCH 8, 2007 BE ADOPTED.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Tod House

Council met with MLA, Ida Chong, where Tod House and its deferred maintenance were discussed. Ms. Chong said she would look into the file on Tod House.

Loranne Hilton will set the date for an inspection of Tod House for the end of May. All members of the committees are encouraged to attend the inspection. The municipality has a quote for the cairn on the property to be moved to the boulevard.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDING AND PLANNING

Budget

The 2007 budget was distributed.

Website

Nigel Beattie will speak to Lorraine to remind her of the web site.

Strategic Plan

Christopher Watts has gone through the plan. The plan needs to be assessed, edited and recreated. Involving and informing the public as much as possible is important to the committee. Christopher Watts has already begun a planning process (attachment). The committee will consider a Saturday morning or weekday evening meeting to assess the plan. Jean Sparks, with the assistance of Fraser Bell, will look into grants and government funding.

Nigel suggested Gerry McGeough might be involved in our plan assessment. Gerry McGeough will have different input from his experience in Vancouver, as well as other innovative ideas. Nigel and Sandi will try to arrange a meeting for the end of May.

Heritage Conservation Areas

Nigel will get a copy of Bill Cochrane's memo on Conservation areas to be circulated to the committee.

HERITAGE ADVISORY PANEL

The Heritage Advisory Panel has seen the demolition application for 2092 Esplanade. The 1985 home will be moved.

516 Newport presented an application to put garage doors on the carport. This was not recommended for consideration by the HAP.

Nigel was asked to provide the committee with the specific number of demolition permits annually, since 2002 for the next meeting.

HERITAGE COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Committee will be meeting on Wednesday April 18 at 1:00pm.

Marion Cumming, a member of the committee, would like the HSC to be aware of the closing of the Legislative Library. Marion will send the Chair a letter with more information.

The Heritage Steering Committee recommends that once Council has been provided with more information, that Council consider writing a letter opposing the closure of the library.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES COMMITTEE

The Community Initiatives Committee (CIC) is listing upcoming events in the community. One of the main projects of the committee is to make the community more accessible. Changes such as curb cuts, handicap accessible washrooms and widening the sidewalks will be under consideration.

John Harker suggested the CIC work with the HSC to have the two new (Kiwanis) signs erected. This is a great project for the CIC.

NEW BUSINESS

The St. Michael's sign project is underway. Christopher Watts will bring the committee the wording for the plaque. The marker will be on the boulevard at Roslyn Avenue and Windsor Avenue.

MOVED by Christopher Watts

Seconded by Don Reksten, THAT A MARKER BE ERECTED ON THE BOULVARD AT ROSLYN AVENUE AND WINDSOR AVENUE.

CARRIED

A Boulevard Encroachment Permit must be issued before the cairn is installed.

The planned date for the unveiling of the marker is Friday June 1, 2007 at 10:00 am. There will be 2-3 speeches and the St. Michael's University School students in attendance. Sandi will inform the media. The street will need to be blocked off by Oak Bay Police.

This event will be reported back to the Community Initiatives Committee.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Heritage Steering Committee will be on Thursday May 10, 2007 at 8:30 am.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.