

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 January 17, 2008.

PRESENT: Christopher Causton, Chair
Stephanie Sainas
Don Reksten
Jane Nielsen
Christopher Watts
W. John Harker
Bronwyn Taylor
STAFF: Nigel Beattie, Sandi Piercy
REGRETS: Jean Sparks
GUEST: Rod Pendlebury

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

CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2008. New member, Bronwyn Taylor, was introduced and welcomed to the committee.
Rod Pendlebury was also welcomed as a guest to the meeting to speak about the renovation plans for the Oak Bay United Church.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by Christopher Watts
Seconded by Don Reksten, THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OAK BAY HERITAGE STEERING COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY DECEMBER 13, 2007 BE ADOPTED WITH THE FOLLOWING AMMENDMENT:

Demolition Permits

The change to the FAR bylaw may *help* a number of homes to be saved.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Oak Bay United Church Renovation Plans

Rod Pendlebury of Durwest Construction came to speak to the Heritage Steering Committee (HSC) about the renovation plans for the Oak Bay United Church (OBUC). Structural integrity studies were done in the early 1990's on the OBUC and the church itself was closed in 1994. Services still continue in Gardiner Hall, the building next door and fundraising has raised over \$1,000,000 for the renovations. Stantec Consultants were hired to revisit the work done in the 1990's and assist with cost estimating for the renovations. Durwest is working with a building committee from the congregation. The main purpose of the renovations is to bring the church back to the Life Safety code Standards with structural changes including a new roof, proper exiting ramps and stairs and seismic upgrades. The building will be fully fire alarmed and sprinklered. Very little change will be done to the exterior of the building in the first

phase. Deconstruction will begin in the basement where the basement floor has deteriorated and repairs to the foundations, drainage and a ground seal will be done.

Interior changes will be few, however many of the the lath and plaster walls will be replaced by drywall. The roof will have steel beams for support; however the beams will have a wood veneer for appearance.

An Order of Magnitude estimate is currently being addressed by Durwest and Stantec. The estimated timeline for the work is six months. The congregation and others are meeting to discuss the building plans on January 27 at approximately 11:00 am, after the 10:00 am service.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Committee Titles

Christopher Watts will check with Bill Cochrane regarding the title of Heritage Commission.

Web Site

Web Site design and plans have begun. The site will take longer than initially anticipated, however it is hoped that with the help of a number of committee members, it will be complete by the end of February.

Walking Tour Maps

The municipality of Oak Bay will be producing one map booklet this year. The maps will be funded by the Community Initiatives Committee, but will include as many heritage sites and points of interest as possible. The map will be pocket-sized and marked with lanes, paths and roads for walking routes.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDING AND PLANNING

Budget

Nigel Beattie presented the budget for 2008. The budget numbers remain the same as 2007. There was money in the 2007 budget for a portion of the new web site, two completed pen and ink drawings and for two Kiwanis Signs that have been started.

MOVED by W. John Harker

Seconded by Don Reksten, THAT THE COMMITTEE PAYS KIWANIS FOR ONE HALF THE COST OF TWO *OAK BAY-KIWANIS HERITAGE SIGNS*, OUT OF THE 2007 BUDGET.

CARRIED

Glenlyon Norfolk School Renovation Plans

Nigel presented an updated copy of the plans for the school renovation. The latest proposal shows that the boat house will stay, as will the original carriage house and the main building. There will be no underground parking.

Report on Demolition

The number of homes that were demolished in Oak Bay in 2006 was 10. In 2007 the number of homes was 9 and one hotel. These numbers are down from the previous average of 12 homes per year.

HERITAGE COMMUNITY SERVICES

2008 Lecture Series

The 2008 Lecture Series does have tentative dates and speakers:

September 17	Grant Keddie, Charles Elliott, Cheryl Bryce Discussing First Nations History and the Oak Bay Salish History Monuments.
October 15	Rosemary Cross and Martin Segger. Martin Segger will be discussing Samuel Maclure.
November 12	Professor Lucas Oak Bay residential interiors.

Home and Garden Tour

Lorna and Jane will meet again to discuss potential dates for the tour and to discuss the potential of the Oak Bay United Church's involvement. It was suggested that the portion of the money raised by Oak Bay Heritage be donated to the church's renovations.

HERITAGE ADVISORY PANEL

963 Beach Drive

The panel did not disagree with the permit for this home. The home will be floated out from McNeill Bay to another location. The owners of the property are planning a home that will fit into the streetscape.

2032 Esplanade

The owners of this property have decided against deconstruction and will be renovating the current home.

1587/1595 York Place

The owners of this property are continuing to discuss renovation and building plans, but at the current time, no plans have been finalized.

3150 Rutland Road

The committee is aware that this home is still currently on the market.

COMMUNITY INIATIVES COMMITTEE

The Oak Bay Salish History Monuments Project has not been started. Despite encouragement from avenues of the Provincial government, funding has not become available for this project, yet. The HSC would like to get this project underway and will begin with the first marker at Bowker Creek.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Heritage Steering Committee will take place on Thursday February 14, 2008 at 8:30 am. The meeting will be chaired by Christopher Watts.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 am.