COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION

MINUTES

An Open meeting of the Community Heritage Commission was held in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 4949 Canada Way, Burnaby, B.C. on Thursday, **2017 November 16** at 6:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Councillor Colleen Jordan, Chair
Councillor Sav Dhaliwal, Vice Chair
Ms. Ruby Johnson, Honorary Member Emeritus
Mr. Lee Loftus, Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission Representative
Ms. Les Lee Lowe, Burnaby Historical Society Representative
Ms. Tammy Marchioni, Citizen Representative
Mr. Harry Pride, Historian

ABSENT: Councillor Nick Volkow, Member *(due to illness)*
Ms. Diane Gillis, Citizen Representative
Ms. Coni O'Neill, Citizen Representative

STAFF: Mr. Jim Wolf, Senior Long Range Planner
Ms. Deborah Tuyttens, Museum Services Supervisor
Ms. Lisa Codd, Museum Curator
Ms. Rebecca Pasch, City Archivist
Ms. Blanka Zeinabova, Administrative Officer

The Chair called the Open meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. MINUTES

a) **Minutes of the Community Heritage Commission Open meeting held on 2017 September 07**

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER LOWE
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PRIDE

THAT the minutes of the Community Heritage Commission Open meeting held on 2017 September 07 be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. PRESENTATION

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER MARCHIONI
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DHALIWAL

THAT the presentation be heard.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

a) The Case of the Missing Minutes: Rediscovering Burnaby's Incorporation the First Year of Council
Presenter: Jim Wolf, Senior Long Range Planner

Mr. Jim Wolf, Senior Long Range Planner, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the history of Burnaby's incorporation and its first Council in 1892. It was noted that the first municipal Clerk was Mr. Alex Philip (1892-1894) and the second Clerk was Mr. Alfred Smither (1894-1899). Council met in New Westminster where the minutes were kept as well; however, in 1898 the Great Fire destroyed Columbia Street. At the Council meeting on 1898 September 24, Council resolved to allow the Clerk $30 for making a copy of the minute book and $5 for copying the accounts, as well as authorized him to purchase the new books needed.

In 1962, Ms. Margaret Ades, daughter of Mr. Alfred Smither, advised that she had some of her father's minute books, and donated them to the Burnaby Historical Society.

In 2005, Council minutes from 1895-1898 were found in the Provincial Archives in Victoria. They were restored, and are now stored in the City's Archives.

In conclusion, Mr. Wolf noted that the City is missing all Council minutes from 1892 September 22 to 1894 March 24. It was noted that meetings were held weekly, and approximately 80 Council meetings need to be located in local newspapers. To date, the City recovered all Council meeting accounts between 1892 September 22 to 1893 April. Staff will continue researching and compiling the missing accounts, transcribe the newspaper articles into Word documents, and create an online research tool for users to access on Heritage Burnaby.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOWE

THAT the correspondence be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

a) Correspondence from the Salish Sea Trust
Re: Salish Sea - Call for Nomination for a UNESCO World Heritage Site

Correspondence was received from Ms. Laurie Gourlay, Interim Director, the Salish Sea Trust, seeking support from the City by signing ePetition to add the Salish Sea to Canada's Tentative List for UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

b) Correspondence from the Salish Sea Trust
Re: Grand Finale 2017

Correspondence was received from Ms. Laurie Gourlay, Interim Director, the Salish Sea Trust, requesting the City's recognition of December 11th as "A Day for Our Common Future", as well as seeking support for the 41 UNESCO World Heritage Site applications submitted in 2017 from across Canada. It was noted that 10 successful bids will be announced in December.

Arising from discussion, the following motion was introduced:

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER PRIDE
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARCHIONI

THAT the Commission recommend Council support the Salish Sea Trust's application for the Salish Sea to be included on Canada's Tentative List for UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c) Memorandum from the City Archivist
Re: Heritage Burnaby Website - Archives Response

A memorandum was received from Ms. Rebecca Pasch, City Archivist, in response to an inquiry made by the Commission in September regarding the Heritage Burnaby website referencing 1892 to 1894 missing records. It was noted that a brief history of the Great Fire in New Westminster and its impact on the City of Burnaby's early records was added, as well as a description of all Council records on Heritage Burnaby Research page, explaining which Council records are missing and why.

d) Memorandum from the City Archivist
Re: City of Burnaby Archives - Update

A memorandum was received from Ms. Rebecca Pasch, City Archivist, providing an update on work at the City Archives. The update included the following:

- The Truth and Reconciliation Commission Final Report (2016) includes a Call to Action specifically for the Archives – to identify and collect copies of all records relevant to the history and legacy of the residential school system for the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR).

  Staff began gathering the data last fall and conducted a full survey of the City's holdings. As there were no residential schools in Burnaby, records are primarily related to the treaty negotiations in the Lower Mainland and in the Province of British Columbia.

- The Archives has been working towards best practices for preservation, i.e. wrapping and conserving 20 leather-bound Council minute books; rehousing in upright enclosures a collection of glass plate negatives; and migrating photograph preservation masters to a secure drive maintained by the IT department.

5. REPORT

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER MARCHIONI
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DHALIWAL

THAT the report be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

a) Report from the Director Planning and Building Re: Heritage Burnaby – "Migration Stories Project"

The Director Planning and Building submitted a report outlining a new partnership with Simon Fraser University for the creation of a digital project for Heritage Burnaby.

The Director Planning and Building recommended:

1. THAT the Community Heritage Commission approve the "Migration Stories Project", as outlined in this report, as a partnership project with Simon Fraser University to enhance Heritage Burnaby.

2. THAT Council be requested to approve the expenditure of $10,000 towards Phase I of the "Migration Stories Project", as outlined in this report.

3. THAT a copy of this report be sent to Dr. David Kaufman, Faculty of Education at Simon Fraser University.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DHALIWAL

THAT the recommendations of the Director Planning and Building be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. NEW BUSINESS

Brian Elder – Missing Minutes

Councillor Jordan advised that she received a letter from Mr. Brian Elder advising that Reeve Schou (Burnaby Reeve 1893-1903) was also a special correspondent for two local newspapers, the Vancouver 'News-Advertiser' and the New Westminster 'British Columbian', and sent Council minutes to both newspapers. These minutes were previously searched out, photocopied and sent to the City Archives.

Deborah Tuyttens - Heritage Christmas

Ms. Tuyttens noted that this year Heritage Christmas at Burnaby Village Museum will be presented by Concord Pacific. The Museum will open on November 25th; with a tree lighting ceremony on December 2nd at 6:00 p.m. Proceeds from carousel rides tickets will be donated to the Burnaby Christmas Bureau.

Lisa Codd - Burnaby Neighbourhood History Series

Ms. Codd advised that the Burnaby Neighbourhood History Series were very successful, with the largest attendance at the Chinese-Canadian Stories.

Jim Wolf - Miscellaneous Updates

Mr. Wolf advised that staff is working on a project with the Burnaby School Board. More details will be forthcoming.

The speaker further advised that the exterior restoration of Mathers House restoration will begin in 2018.

Mr. Wolf noted that staff have completed a sample chapter for the Burnaby School Book History project to be reviewed by the Book Committee.

Councillor Jordan - Appreciation

Councillor Jordan advised that this is the last meeting for Commissioners O'Neill, Lowe and Loftus. The Chair conveyed thanks and appreciation to the Commissioners for their participation on the Heritage Commission.

7. INQUIRIES

There were no inquiries brought before the Commission at this time.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER LOWE
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARCHIONI

THAT this Open meeting do now adjourn.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Open meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

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Blanka Zeinabova	Councillor Colleen Jordan
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	CHAIR