



## COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION

### MINUTES

Thursday, June 18, 2020, 5:00 p.m.

Council Chamber, City Hall

4949 Canada Way, Burnaby, BC

PRESENT: Councillor Colleen Jordan, Chair  
Councillor James Wang, Member (*participated electronically*)  
Ms. Karin Alzner, Parks, Recreation & Culture Commission Representative  
Ms. Diane Gillis, Resident Representative  
Mr. Richard Liu, Resident Representative (*participated electronically*)  
Mr. Lee Loftus, Resident Representative (*participated electronically*)  
Ms. Tammy Marchioni, Resident Representative  
Mr. Harry Pride, Historian (*participated electronically*)  
Mr. Roger Whitehouse, Resident Representative (*participated electronically*)

ABSENT: Councillor Paul McDonell, Vice Chair (*due to illness*)  
Ms. Ruby Johnson, Honorary Member Emeritus

STAFF: Mr. Jim Wolf, Senior Long Range Planner  
Ms. Rebecca Pasch, City Archivist  
Ms. Ellen van Eijnsbergen, Director/Curator  
Ms. Lisa Codd, Heritage Planner  
Ms. Monica Macdonald, Administrative Officer  
Ms. Lauren Cichon, Council Support Assistant

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the Open Commission meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. and conducted the roll call. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the following members and staff participated electronically: Councillor Wang, Commissioner Liu, Commissioner Loftus, Commissioner Pride, and Commissioner Whitehouse, and Ms. van Eijnsbergen.

For the benefit of those participating electronically, the Chair read out the names of members and staff physically present.

The Chair, Councillor Colleen Jordan, recognized the ancestral and unceded homelands of the hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓ and Skwxwú7mesh speaking peoples, and extended appreciation for the opportunity to hold a meeting on this shared territory.

## **2. MINUTES**

### **2.1 Minutes of the Community Heritage Commission Open meeting held on 2020 February 06**

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER GILLIS

SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARCHIONI

THAT the minutes of the Community Heritage Commission Open meeting held on 2020 February 06 be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **3. PRESENTATION**

### **3.1 Fairacres Estate Adaptive Re-Use Study**

Donald Luxton, Senior Cultural Heritage Advisor, Donald Luxton & Associates Inc., provided a status update on the adaptive re-use study of the Fairacres Estate and its surrounding outbuildings.

Mr. Luxton advised that the purpose of the study is to review the current and potential adaptive reuse of three of the *Fairacres* outbuildings: the Garage and Stables (vacant); the Chauffeur's Cottage (used by City Horticultural staff); and the Root House (used for storage). The structural Assessment for the buildings has been completed which identifies necessary life safety upgrades.

The speaker stated that different uses will require different levels of code upgrades and interventions to the interior; as well as have different levels of impact, cost and public benefit. In general, the base line costs of structural and functional upgrades will be about the same for any use except storage.

Mr. Luxton provided a summary of his findings for each building, as follows:

#### Garage and Stables

The building's various components (a hayloft, horse stalls, and one-car garage) and three different levels presents some challenges. Necessary upgrades would include raising part of the ground floor to make it one level, putting in a lift to make the second floor accessible, and replacing the temporary roof loading supports on the second floor with other measures to open up the space as much as possible.

Mr. Luxton provided an analysis of a number of re-use options, such as Programming Space, Non-Commercial Offices, and Partial Public Assembly.

Staff advised that, based on the study findings and in consideration of the City's need for visual arts programming space, the Adaptive Re-Use Study Working Group (staff and the consultant team) would be recommending the building be used for programming and related administrative offices.

#### Chauffeurs Cottage

The Cottage is about 690 sq. ft. and is currently underutilized. There would be minimal upgrade required for storage use only, but this would provide minimal public benefit. Using the space for programming, on the other hand, would cost a "Medium" amount more but would provide a high public benefit.

#### Root House

Because the Root House has only one exit and is damp, it is not usable for anything except storage. The exterior space, however, is an opportunity for outdoor programming use.

Mr. Luxton summarized the next steps for the study, as follows:

- ongoing refinement of schematic designs;
- development of "Class C" cost estimates; and,
- development of final recommendations.

In conclusion, staff advised that a report on the findings of the adaptive re-use study will be provided to the Commission at the 2020 September 10 meeting.

## **4. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **4.1 Memorandum from the Director Planning and Building - Re: Heritage Program Updates**

A memorandum was received from the Director Planning and Building providing an update on the following initiatives advanced through the Community Heritage Commission (CHC):

Pacific Northwest History Conference – the 2020 conference was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CHC Training on Identification and Stewardship of Indigenous Heritage Resources – a speaker was scheduled to provide training at the 2020 June 04 meeting on the above matter, but was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The training will be rescheduled when it is safe to do so.

Review of Civic Monuments – a heritage consultant will be used to conduct condition assessments of numerous cenotaphs, arches, and concrete and stone features. A report will be provided at the 2020 September 10 meeting.

Publication of *Tram Memories: In Celebration of Restoration of Interurban 1223* – staff will be reprinting 100 copies, as well as digitizing the book in coordination with the digitization of *Inkwells to Internet: A History of Burnaby Schools* project.

#### **4.2 Memorandum from the City Archivist - Re: City of Burnaby Archives - Update**

A memorandum was received from the City Archivist providing an update on activities and initiatives at the City Archives since the 2020 February 06 meeting, and noted the following:

- on 2020 March 18 civic public facilities closed (due to COVID-19) and in-person archival services were temporarily suspended. Staff continued to process research requests via phone and email, as well as acquire born-digital records electronically; and,
- as of 2020 June, all records that were originally tallied at the launch of the digital preservation program in 2017, have been processed.

Staff further advised that the City Archives will be open to the public on 2020 July 13 and full archival services will resume.

#### **4.3 Memorandum from the Administrative Officer - Re: Child Care Centre For City Employees**

A memorandum was received from the Administrative Officer advising that, at the Open Council meeting held on 2020 May 25, Council adopted the above noted report and approved the use of the City-owned property at 6570 Deer Lake Avenue as a site for a child care centre for the children of City employees, and authorized the City Solicitor to bring forward a Capital Reserve Fund Bylaw in the amount of \$3,500,000 to finance the centre.

The Chair advised that the City Manager will be reviewing the issues raised by Council, this Commission, as well as the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission as part of a further study to be conducted on the matter.

The Commission advised that, while it supports creating a child care centre for City employees, it has concerns using this site, including: funds having already been used towards the adaptive reuse of Hill Cottage, and now additional funds will be spent for a project that is not part of the original site plan; loss of trees and green space; traffic congestion, speeding and pedestrian safety; parking; no benefit to the community at large; apparent lack of a strategic plan for child care services for City employees; loss of heritage value (Hill Cottage and mature

trees); and lack of consultation with, as well as undermining the work of the Commission.

Further, the Commission voiced distress regarding the heritage significance of the building and any action taken by staff which would deviate from Council's original intended use of the property.

Arising from discussion, the Chair requested that the Commission's concerns be forwarded to the City Manager to be included in his review.

## **5. REPORTS**

### **5.1 Report from the Director Planning and Building - Re: Commemorating Diverse Community Heritage in Burnaby**

The Director Planning and Building submitted a report outlining an approach to recognize the histories and contributions of the diverse settlement and Indigenous communities in Burnaby.

The Director Planning and Building recommended:

1. THAT this report be received for information purposes.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER ALZNER  
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GILLIS

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

**AMENDED**

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER MARCHIONI  
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ALZNER

THAT the recommendation be **AMENDED** to read, as follows: "THAT Council receive this report for information".

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER MARCHIONI  
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ALZNER

THAT the recommendation of the Director Planning and Building be adopted, **AS AMENDED**.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**5.2 Report from the Director Planning and Building - Re: Alta Vista Reservoir Vent**

The Director Planning and Building submitted a report seeking Commission authorization to prepare a report on the Alta Vista Reservoir Vent outlining its potential conservation and protection as a civic heritage feature.

The Director Planning and Building recommended:

1. THAT staff prepare a report for consideration regarding the potential conservation and protection of the Alta Vista Reservoir Vent as a civic heritage feature.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER GILLIS

SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARCHIONI

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**5.3 Report from the Director Planning and Building - Re: Burnaby School History Publication Project**

The Director Planning and Building submitted a report outlining plans for printing, distribution, and digitization of *Inkwells to Internet: A History of Burnaby Schools*, a publication featuring the history of Burnaby schools.

The Director Planning and Building recommended:

1. THAT the Community Heritage Commission receive this report for information.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER ALZNER

SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GILLIS

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business brought before the Commission at this time.

**7. INQUIRIES**

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

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Without objection, the Community Heritage Commission Open meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.



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CHAIR



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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER