

MEMBERS PRESENT

Heather Cochran Marion Cumming Cairine Green Jane Hall Cora Smith Robert Taylor Councillor Kevin Murdoch

Krista Mitchell, Building / Planning Clerk

MEMBERS ABSENT

Joan Heagle Margaret Palmer Susan Ross Bronwyn Taylor Monica Walter

STAFF PRESENT

Deborah Jensen, Manager of Planning

OTHERS PRESENT

Members of the Public: 0

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda and Late Items

The agenda was approved as presented with the addition of items 7(a), 7(b) and 7(c).

3. Adoption of Minutes

It was moved and seconded that the minutes from April 6, 2017 be adopted as presented. The motion was carried. None opposed.

4. Adoption of Minutes

It was moved and seconded that the minutes from April 11, 2017 be adopted as presented. The motion was carried. None opposed.

5. Correspondence

C. Green advised Jean Sparks, former archivist for the District of Oak Bay, submitted an email indicating the Heritage Commission decision to recommend Council lift the 60 day protection order for 2264 Windsor Road has undermined the hard won heritage program. She also noted she had responded to Ms Sparks that it was a difficult decision that had involved discussions on relocating the house and financial liabilities for forcing a heritage designation.

K. Murdoch commented that Council also had a very close vote of 4 to 3 in support of lifting the 60 day protection order.

A Commission member commented that, given the historical significance of the home, the cost of saving the house should not be a consideration unless it was astronomical.

K. Murdoch noted costs are unknown at this point, but the District is liable to compensate owners for loss of value if the home is designated against their will; and also noted the house is sitting on two legal lots, and individually the total three lots are worth more than one lot. The goal is to get homes designated as there is more obligation for protection.

6. Information Items

D. Jensen reported that Council approved 2390 Oak Bay Avenue to be added to the Community Heritage Register, and that the new heritage brochures are now available.

Commission members complimented both the updated format for the statements of significance and the attractive brochure.

7. New Business

The Heritage Commission – Annual Workplan Session (Part II) was deferred to the next Heritage Commission meeting of June 13, 2017.

a. Review of Heritage Commission Bylaw

A Commission member reported that a subcommittee had reviewed the heritage commission bylaw in response to the workplan session. Some of the comments were:

- Section 2(3) "to promote heritage awareness" seems to duplicate part of the Heritage Foundation mandate, creating inefficiencies and confusion over the respective role of the two groups.
- Commission members expressed concern that "and provide leadership in heritage awareness" might compromise the Commission's ability to impartially advise Council on heritage matters.
- The term 'Chairman' should be changed to Chairperson.
- A summary report will be distributed to members for the June 13, 2017 meeting.

K. Murdoch commended the subcommittee group for the thoughtful observation of the heritage commission bylaw.

b. Night Market

The night market is being held June 14, July 12, August 9, and September 13. The booth will be shared with Oak Bay Archives and a volunteer signup sheet will be circulated.

c. Funding Request

Heritage BC held a conference in Victoria. Three members of both the Heritage Commission and Heritage Foundation members attended and are requesting \$450 to cover half the cost of registration.

D. Jensen advised she will check the budget and report back at next meeting.

K. Murdoch left the meeting at 5:40 pm.

8. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Heritage Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, June 13, 2017 in the Council Chambers of Municipal Hall.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.