



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

MINUTES

HERITAGE COMMITTEE
Thursday, December 16, 2015 at 12:03 p.m.
Lower Boardroom, City Hall

Minutes of a meeting held on Thursday, December 16, 2015 at 12:03 p.m. in the Lower Boardroom at City Hall.

The following Committee members were in attendance:

Chair: Councillor Morse,
Mayor M. Heyck,
A. Cartwright,
D. Finch,
S. Irlbacher-Fox,
D. Kellett,
K. Luce-Vivian,
E. Purchase, and
M. Vaydik.

The following Committee members were absent:

R. McKeown, and
D. Ritchie.

The following members of Administration were in attendance:

J. Humble,
N. Naidoo,
M. Nguyen, and
L. Dunsmore, Recording Secretary.

Call to Order

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

Introduction of New Committee Member

2. Councillor Morse introduced himself as the new Chair and asked the Committee members to introduce themselves.



Approval of Agenda

3. E. Purchase moved,
K. Luce-Vivian seconded,

That the agenda be approved.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(D. Kellet arrived at 12:15 p.m.)

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

4. There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

5. E. Purchase moved,
D. Finch seconded,

That the Minutes of the meeting held on October 29, 2015 be approved.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Project Updates:

6. a) **Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YDFN) – representation on committee**
The Mayor has sent a letter to the YDFN, inviting the band to nominate one of their members to sit on the Heritage Committee. The North Slave Metis Alliance (NSMA) have contacted D. Finch to express an interest in also having Metis representation on the committee.
- b) **Historic Sites & Monument Board of Canada Plaque**
Administration suggested that a site adjacent to Rotary Park might be an appropriate place to erect a plaque commemorating Northern Ice Roads.

Action: Administration to email the Committee a document providing more detail about the proposed plaque site.

- c) **Proposed Plaques Update**
City Council has approved the Committee's recommendation to update several of the heritage plaques, however, the proposed Back Bay site needs more research before being plaqued. Yellowknife historian R. Silke and the NSMA have discussed use of the site by indigenous people for many generations, and some mention of this should be included. Members of Committee felt that the text proposed for all of the plaques was too wordy and suggested that a specialist in interpretive writing be called in to edit.

Action: Administration to seek an appropriate contractor to revise the text proposed for the plaques.



- d) **Bobbie Drygeese Cultural Tours**
Administration has contacted the tour operator to request that he set up a tour for the Heritage Committee in January 2016.
- e) **Back Bay Cemetery**
Committee noted that over the years, several parties have declared an interest in the land where the cemetery is situated however, it doesn't matter who owns the land as the Heritage Committee is only seeking permission to access the site and protect the graves.

D. Finch moved,
A. Cartwright seconded,

Action: Administration to contact GNWT Department of Lands and Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Interdepartmental Relations with regards to jurisdiction of the lands regarding the Back Bay Cemetery for the purpose of preserving and protecting the gravesites.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Hank Koenen Park – Heritage Sheds

7. Administration advised the Committee that staff are working on a design for the park. Administration will provide further information and seek Committee's input as soon as the public engagement phase of the project has been completed.

Action: Administration and the Chair to draft a letter from the Heritage Committee to owners, to gauge their willingness to donate shed(s) to the City for heritage purposes based upon subsequent investigation regarding the costs of preservation and potential uses of the building.

Heritage Interpretation Panels

8. Members agreed that more work needs to be done on this project.

Action: Members to email their suggestions to the Chair prior to the January 20, 2016 meeting.

Heritage Week Theme

9. The Committee agreed that Heritage Days would take place from February 18 to 20, 2016 and that it would continue to seek other opportunities throughout the year to celebrate the city's heritage. This year's theme will be "performance", celebrating Yellowknife's history of theatre, music, and dance performed by members of the community. Highlights of 2016 Heritage Days will include the ever-popular Music Night at the Wildcat Café and a bus tour, along with other attractions yet to be decided. Members suggested that an additional meeting be scheduled for the month of January, specifically to finalize the details of Heritage Days.



Old Town CPA/Brew Pub Building

10. There was a heritage plaque on the side of this building, but the owner removed it during renovations. He has advised the City that he does not want the heritage plaque put back on his building.

Action: Administration to investigate alternate locations for the plaque.

Tale of a Town (<http://thetaleofatown.com/>)

11. E. Purchase recommended that members and Administration visit the website indicated above, to decide if the Committee should become involved in this cross-Canada heritage project.

Action: Administration, to look into the “Tale of a Town” project and share findings with the Committee.

Arts & Heritage Conference (<http://artsbc.org/new/>)

12. One member suggested that the Committee might want to send the Chair or another member to this conference. Administration advised that, if it could be shown that attendance would help the City to develop its arts/heritage/culture strategy, then it might be easier to find funding to send someone. It was recommended that the Committee monitor the conference website for information about the workshops that would be offered and gather feedback from jurisdictions that have sent representatives to previous conferences.

Action: Administration to research the conference, seeking linkage with Council’s Goals and Objectives.

(Mayor Heyck left the meeting at 12:55 p.m.)
(S. Irlbacher-Fox left the meeting at 1:00 p.m.)

Heritage Share

13. E. Purchase advised the Committee that the federal government has funding available for projects celebrating Canada’s 150th anniversary in 2017.

Action: E. Purchase to email information about the funding program to Committee and Administration.

Next Scheduled Meeting

14. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20, 2016.

Adjournment

15. D. Kellet moved,
K. Luce-Vivian seconded

That the meeting be adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY