

**MINUTES OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2010, AT 5:10 P.M.  
IN THE ESPLANADE CUTBANKS ROOM**

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**PRESENT:** Malcolm Sissons, Chair  
Dennis Baresco  
Earl Morris  
Alderman Ty Schneider, Aldermanic Representative  
Andrea McIntosh, Arts & Heritage Advisory Board Representative

**ALSO PRESENT:**  
Carol Beatty, Manager of Cultural Development  
Philip Pype, Archivist  
Jeanie Gartly, Superintendent of Planning Services  
Helen and Gary Temoin, Owners of the Sissons/Merchant Bank property  
Ryan Dyck, Planning Intern

**NOT PRESENT:**  
George Webb, Vice-Chair  
Mark Dumanowski

1. **I-XL INDUSTRIES LTD. – HERITAGE CONSIDERATIONS**

Barry Finkelman advised Committee members that the Arts and Heritage Advisory Board had reviewed and discussed the closure of I-XL Industries Ltd. He noted that there is considerable heritage associated with I-XL Industries Ltd. and the former Medicine Hat Brick and Tile Company. The brickyard is the longest continuous operating site in Alberta and that history has been documented. However, there is significant history on the site that should also be preserved, and those stories should be accessible for future generations in the community.

**THE HERITAGE RESOURCES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT CITY COUNCIL CONSIDER ENSURING THAT THE HERITAGE LEGACY CREATED BY I-XL INDUSTRIES LTD. AND MEDICINE HAT BRICK AND TILE LTD. BE MAINTAINED FOR FUTURE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF MEDICINE HAT.**

**ADOPTION**

2. **Municipal Designation Bylaw Process Update**

Chair Malcolm Sissons welcomed Helen and Gary Temoin, owners of the Sissons Block / Merchant Bank Building to the meeting and requested a brief update on the Municipal Designation Bylaw for it. Jeanie Gartly advised that the City's Legal Department and the Temoins have reviewed the documents, and the final review is underway. It is anticipated that this will be complete for the next meeting. Gary

Temoin provided an update on the renovations that have been made to date and those planned in the near future. He noted that the work has primarily been done in the interior at this time with a new HVAC system installed, electrical updates completed, drywall installed and fire code requirements met. He noted that the maple floor, posts and beams have all been preserved. He also noted how important it is for the building to be financially successful after renovations are completed in order to sustain itself. A tenant will be moving in early to mid December. He also expressed appreciation for the excellent working relationship with staff, and the good cooperation received from the Building Codes staff in particular. He extended an invitation to all members to visit the site during working hours.

There was discussion on the need to develop a suitable plaque to identify the designated site, and a sub-committee consisting of Jeanie Gartly, Barry Finkelman and Andrea McIntosh was struck. The sub-committee will bring back a report in December outlining a suggested appearance, material, content and cost.

There was also a discussion on the need for additional clarity around the difference between a Statement of Significance and a Municipal Designation. Committee members reviewed the process, noting that Canadian Heritage defines a Statement of Significance as *“a statement of the values of an historic place, based on the reasons for formal recognition. It describes the historic place and defines its heritage value and character defining elements.”* The Statement of Significance is a required element for a property to receive a Municipal Designation. Once a property receives Municipal Designation, which is passed by bylaw, it cannot be reversed without extensive review and discussion. It is the responsibility of the current owner to designate and have the property registered. Municipal Designation opens the process for Provincial Designation and application for provincial funding to assist in restoration.

INFORMATION
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3. **Heritage Garden Project Update**

Committee members were advised that George Webb has discussed the project with the adjacent landowner who indicated there were no concerns as long as there was no interference on his property. The sub-committee is continuing its work to develop the final project, which will be brought back for review at a future meeting.

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4. **Website Development Update**

Jeanie Gartly advised that other cities are being researched for heritage content on their websites. All members were invited to provide any comments and considerations. Ms. Gartly will follow up with the City's Corporate Communications Department to finalize content with the intent to have the website up and running by December. The website should begin being anchored to the City of Medicine Hat site with basic information such as identification of the Heritage Resources Committee and its mandate. Additional information could be added as the Committee work progresses.

## INFORMATION

**5. Incentives Review**

Jeanie Gartly provided information on tax incentives in Medicine Hat and other western Canadian cities. There was discussion about the need to make property owners aware of the incentives that are offered in the city. Discussion took place on Medicine Hat's Renovation and Upgrading Incentive Policy and its application. The owners of the Sissons Block / Merchant Bank Property were requested to consider application for the Medicine Hat Renovation and Upgrading Incentive as a case study and determine the impact. This item will be brought back to the Heritage Resources Committee for review and discussion.

## INFORMATION

**6. Places of Interest List Discussion**

The most recent Places of Interest List was distributed for review. All members were requested to advise Jeanie Gartly if any revisions were required. The Survey document contains a listing of those properties older than 1960. That document needs to be in hand before the Places of Interest List can be fully identified. The criteria needs to be developed, and any information available should be communicated. There was discussion about materials being collected for documentation of the Heritage Resources Committee work and about photos of signs documenting 'ghosts of the past'. All members were invited to forward any information on the two projects to the Archives for cataloguing.

## INFORMATION

**7. Statement of Significance Clarification**

Committee members discussed the need for landowners to be aware of the requirements for a property once a Statement of Significance has been done. Chair Malcolm Sissons will draft a letter to advise that a Statement of Significance has been done for some of the properties in the Downtown and River Flats and provide this letter to those landowners with a copy of the Statement of Significance. This same letter would be provided on future Statements of Significance that are completed by the Committee. A draft of this letter will be brought back to a future meeting.

## INFORMATION

**8. Municipal Heritage Forum**

The only representative from the Heritage Resources Committee able to attend was Jeanie Gartly, who provided a brief synopsis of the Forum and a copy of the presentation that she gave. She noted that the Forum is a great networking opportunity and learning experience, and is provided at no cost for registration.

INFORMATION

9. **Development Related Issues**

There was discussion on several development and heritage related issues, including Finlay Bridge lighting, the former Raber's store, and the CPR Caboose at Medalta.

INFORMATION

10. **Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 2, 2010.

INFORMATION

11. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m. Other agenda items dealt with were Administrative matters.

Received by City Council on \_\_\_\_\_.

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DAVID LEFLAR, CITY CLERK