

**MINUTES OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2011, AT 5:10 P.M.
AT THE ESPLANADE STUDIO THEATRE**

PRESENT: Malcolm Sissons, Chair
Mark Dumanowski
Earl Morris
Dennis Baresco
Andrea McIntosh, Arts & Heritage Advisory Board Representative

ALSO PRESENT:
Alderman Graham Kelly, Aldermanic Representative
Barry Finkelman, Chair, Arts & Heritage Advisory Board
Philip Pype, Archivist
Jeanie Gartly, Superintendent of Planning Services
Carol Beatty, Manager of Cultural Development
Kathy Eden, Heritage Assistant (Recording Secretary)

1. Finlay Bridge Designation

(Appendix A)

Committee members reviewed and approved the Statement of Significance. Discussion occurred regarding the maintenance and use once designation is in place. Clarification was made to ensure that the designation is to preserve the character defining elements with care and consideration, while not limiting the safety or integrity of the bridge. This means that the City could change the use to a one way bridge, pedestrian bridge or brace as required for safety, without compromising the designation. The City could not however demolish the bridge or significantly alter the character-defining elements. After discussion, it was moved by Andrea McIntosh, seconded by Earl Morris to recommend that Finlay Bridge be designated as a municipal historic resource.

CARRIED

It is recommended that City Council:

- i. Direct the City Clerk to serve 60 days notice on the owners of the Finlay Bridge as required by Section 26 (2), of the Act, of Council's intention to consider designating the Finlay Bridge a municipal historic resource; and;**
- ii. Direct the City Solicitor and Planning Services to draft a bylaw for the consideration of the Heritage Resources Committee and City Council to designate Finlay Bridge a municipal historic resource following the expiry of the 60 day notice period.**

ADOPTION

2. Heritage Resources Committee Budget Request**(Appendix B)**

Discussion occurred regarding the Committee's draft budget that will be presented to the City Clerk's office by the end of August. Following discussion, it was moved by Dennis Baresco, seconded by Earl Morris that the draft budget be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

The Heritage Resources Committee recommends **THAT CITY COUNCIL ADOPT THE HERITAGE RESOURCES COMMITTEE BUDGET AS PRESENTED.**

ADOPTION**3. Ewart Duggan Heritage Garden Update**

A written summary for the Ewart Duggan Garden sub-committee meeting of July 20, 2011 was provided to the Committee. In particular, the requirements of the Provincial Archaeologist were noted. Summary items and next steps were discussed. Committee volunteers will be in attendance at the Heritage Festival on Saturday, August 6, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. behind the Ewart Duggan House, to promote the Heritage Garden Project. Discussion occurred regarding the Committee's request for photographs from the public of pre-WWII gardens in Medicine Hat. Esplanade Archives will work with the Heritage Resources Committee on this project. The Committee will apply for provincial funding for the garden project by February 1, 2012, to match funds that have been raised.

INFORMATION**4. Plaque Development Update**

Committee members reviewed and approved the final proofs for the Hargrave Sissons Block and Merchants Bank of Canada plaques. Discussion occurred regarding plaque placement on the buildings. Following discussion, Committee members agreed plaque placement requires further consideration and consultation with the owners.

INFORMATION

5. **Meet & Greet Fall Open House**

Committee members will be holding an open house to coincide with the Hargrave/Sissons and Merchants Bank plaque unveilings at Inspire Café and Gallery on October 18, 2011, 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. The Mayor, members of Council, the media, and public will be invited.

INFORMATION

6. **New Member Application & Advertisement**

Discussion occurred regarding the replacement and advertisement of the vacant position on the Heritage Resources Committee. Following discussion, Committee members agreed that they would wait until the City's regular advertising cycle for Committee recruitment in the fall of 2011.

INFORMATION

7. **Heritage Trees**

Research was undertaken on how other municipalities are preserving historical trees. An organization in the Province called the Heritage Tree Program has been established by a group of volunteers and acts as a registry. Following discussion, the Committee agreed at this time the best protection would be to ensure public awareness and recognition of seven trees located in Medicine Hat. Chair, Malcolm Sissons will contact the Medicine Hat News to encourage an article be written in this regard. A further action carried forward is for the Chair to write a letter to all arborist and landscaping companies in the area to bring these trees to their attention. Further consideration regarding heritage trees will be undertaken by Heritage Resources Committee.

INFORMATION

8. **Terms of Office**

Discussion occurred regarding the requirement to establish the terms of office for this Committee in order to ensure a proper rotation and overlap of members. Following discussion, Committee members agreed that a term of three years would be advertised during the next City's regular advertising for Committee recruitment. Current Committee members will decide by year end as to their preference of term for one or two more years. A Heritage Resources Committee by-law is being developed with the City Solicitor that will include the terms of office.

INFORMATION

9. Heritage Building Lighting

As a part of the Downtown Redevelopment Plan, heritage building lighting was discussed. The Committee discussed if this was an Action Item they would choose to consider. It was determined that, at this time, there are other priorities for the Committee and that this was not within their scope of work.

INFORMATION

10. Elect Vice-Chair

Chair, Malcolm Sissons entertained nominations from the Committee. Public member Earl Morris was selected by acclamation.

INFORMATION

11. First Street Heritage Streetscape/District

Discussion occurred regarding the concept of First Street potentially being a heritage streetscape. There are currently two provincial historic designations on First Street that may have an impact on future road planning. Chair, Malcolm Sissons will draft a letter to the Manager of Planning Services to request this Committee's input into the Land Use By-law to address any heritage planning considerations of land uses.

INFORMATION

12. Intangible Cultural Heritage

Discussion occurred regarding a concept called Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH). This term is gaining momentum which may be considered as a character defining element in the future. Intangible Cultural Heritage means the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills – as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith – that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage. This intangible cultural heritage, transmitted from generation to generation, is constantly recreated by communities and groups in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history, and provides them with a sense of identity and continuity, thus promoting respect for cultural diversity and human creativity.

INFORMATION

13. Discussion and Other Administrative Items

The Committee discussed:

- Variance Report
- Arts & Heritage Fund

INFORMATION

14. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 6, 2011 in the Esplanade Cutbanks room.

15. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Adopted by City Council on _____.

DAVID LEFLAR, CITY CLERK