



COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION
MINUTES

Wednesday, March 2, 2022

Meeting held electronically and open to public attendance
Council Chamber, City Hall

PRESENT:

John Davies	Alternate Chair/Community Member*
Samuel Boisvert	Community Member*
Bozana Djuric	Community Member*
Lindsay Macintosh	Community Member*
Virginia McMahon	Community Member*

ABSENT:

Councillor Jaimie McEvoy	Chair
Jill Davy	NWHPS Representative
Kletzky Morales	Community Member

GUESTS:

Myron Calof	I4 Property Group*
Ryan Pretto	I4 Property Group*
Elana Zysblat	Heritage Consultant*
Thomas Grimwood	Grimwood Architecture*

STAFF PRESENT:

Rob McCullough	Manager, Museums and Heritage Services, Office of the CAO*
Britney Dack	Senior Heritage Planner, Climate Action, Planning and Development
Kathleen Stevens	Heritage Planning Analyst, Climate Action, Planning and Development*
Dilys Huang	Development Planner, Climate Action, Planning and Development*
Nazanin Esmaeili	Planning Assistant, Climate Action, Planning and Development*
Carilyn Cook	Committee Clerk, Legislative Services

*Denotes electronic attendance

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Carilyn Cook, Committee Clerk, opened the meeting at 6:11 p.m. and recognized with respect that New Westminster is on the unceded and unsurrendered land of the Halkomelem speaking peoples. She acknowledged that colonialism has made invisible their histories and connections to the land. She recognized that, as a City, we are learning and building relationships with the people whose lands we are on.

2. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT pursuant to Section 90 of the Community Charter, members of the public be excluded from the Closed Meeting of Committee immediately following the Regular Meeting of Committee on the basis that the subject matter of all agenda items to be considered related to matters listed under Sections 90(1) (m):

90 (1) (m) a matter that, under another enactment, is such that the public may be excluded from the meeting.

Carried.

All Commission members present voted in favour of the motion.

3. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Item 6.1: Election of Alternate Chair be addressed first on the agenda.

Carried.

All Commission members present voted in favour of the motion.

Procedural note: Agenda Item 6.1: Election of Alternate Chair was addressed at this time and John Davies, Alternate Chair/Community Member, assumed the Chair.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

4.1 February 2, 2022

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the February 2, 2022 Community Heritage Commission meeting be adopted.

Carried.

All Commission members present voted in favour of the motion.

5. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Museums and Archives Advisory Group Liaison Representative

Rob McCullough, Manager, Museums and Heritage Services, announced that the Museums and Archives Advisory Group, has a position for a representative from the Community Heritage Commission. He noted that the Advisory Group meets three to four times per year.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Bozana Djuric be the Community Heritage Commission representative on the Museums and Archives Advisory Group for the 2022 term.

Carried.

All Commission members present voted in favour of the motion.

5.2 Vimy Oak Interpretive Text

Rob McCullough, Manager, Museums and Heritage Services, shared that the project came to be after Lieutenant Leslie Miller collected acorns from Vimy Ridge after the 1917 battle which saw the Ridge decimated. Upon his return to Ontario, Canada, Lieutenant Miller planted the acorns. The City, in partnership with the New Westminster Heritage Preservation Society, planted a descendant tree from the acorns in front of City Hall. Mr. McCullough noted that the goal is to share saplings with communities across the country and, ultimately, repatriate some of the trees back to Vimy Ridge. Mr. McCullough read aloud the text that is proposed to accompany the tree at City Hall.

Discussion ensued and Commission members provided the following comments:

- The text is good; however, World War 1 should be spelled out, to avoid the use of acronyms, and the word “celebrate” should be replaced with “commemorate” or another more appropriate term; and,
- The memorial at Vimy Ridge was one few that was left unscathed after World War 2 as German soldiers protected it.

5.3 Komagata Maru Perimeter Walk and Dock Interpretive Text

Rob McCullough, Manager, Museums and Heritage Services, shared a PowerPoint presentation on the Komagata Maru Perimeter Walk and Dock Interpretive Text, noting that the text document circulated in the agenda package includes feedback received from the Social Inclusion, Engagement and Reconciliation Advisory Committee, including to have a more active narrative.

In response to a suggestion from a Commission member, Mr. McCullough reported that consideration was given to including background information on the ship which was of Japanese origin; however, there was concern that it may detract from the narrative. He advised that a QR code could be included on the plaque to share additional information, including the history of the vessel as well as apologies that have come from around the world regarding the incident.

Discussion ensued and Commission members noted that the Text is well written and well thought out.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Community Heritage Commission endorses the Komagata Maru Perimeter Walk and Dock Interpretive Text as presented this evening.

Carried.

All Commission members present voted in favour of the motion.

5.4 Climate Action Planning and Development – Orientation

Kathleen Stevens, Heritage Planning Analyst, provided a PowerPoint Climate Action Planning and Development Orientation which outlined, the purpose of the Community Heritage Commission as it relates to the Department’s work,

and various other aspects of heritage such as value, legislation, tools and protection, the heritage register, and the various types of heritage applications.

5.5 Heritage Terms: Glossary

No discussion took place.

5.6 Heritage Revitalization Agreement Application: 802 & 806 Eighth Street and 809 Eighth Avenue

Dilys Huang, Development Planner, reviewed the staff report dated March 2, 2022 regarding the Heritage Revitalization Agreement Application for 802 & 806 Eighth Street and 809 Eighth Avenue which includes the retention and relocation of the heritage house and the construction of three new townhouse buildings.

The applicant team of Thomas Grimwood of Grimwood Architecture, Myron Calof and Ryan Pretto of I4 Property Group, and Elana Zysblat, Heritage Consultant, provided a PowerPoint presentation of the proposal.

In response to questions from the Commission, Mssrs. Grimwood and Calof and Ms. Huang provided the following comments:

- It is too early to tell how much the condominiums will cost once finished;
- Greenspace proposed, which is consistent with the guidelines for this type of housing, includes the central greenspace in the courtyard of the complex, the front yard of each townhouse, the front and rear yard for the heritage house, and private decks for each condominium. This component will be reviewed separately by staff and other committees in the application review process; and,
- Housing affordability must be considered at all times as it is connected to a number of factors including the direct cost of development.

Discussion ensued and the Commission noted that the redevelopment proposal is fantastic and the visuals are clear and concise in showing what is going to happen to the heritage house which will become a landmark.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Community Heritage Commission recommend the Director of Climate Action, Planning and Development issue a Demolition Permit for the houses at 802 Eighth Street and 809 Eighth Avenue and that the applicant consider deconstruction as an alternative to demolition waste.

Carried.

All Commission members present voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Community Heritage Commission recommend that Council support the Heritage Revitalization Agreement for 806 Eighth Street.

Carried.

All Commission members present voted in favour of the motion.

5.7 Heritage Review (Demolition): 1428 Tenth Avenue

Nazanin Esmaeili, Planning Assistant, reviewed the staff report dated March 2, 2022 regarding the Heritage Review of 1428 Tenth Avenue which is not legally protected by bylaw and is not listed on the City's Heritage Register nor the Heritage Resource Inventory.

Discussion ensued and Commission members noted that as there is not much heritage value left in the building, demolition of the house is supported.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Community Heritage Commission recommend the Director of Climate Action, Planning and Development issue a Demolition Permit for the house at 1428 Tenth Avenue and that the applicant consider deconstruction as an alternative to demolition waste.

Carried.

All Commission members present voted in favour of the motion.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 Election of Alternate Chair

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT John Davies be elected as the Alternate Chair for the Community Heritage Commission 2022 term.

Carried.

All Commission members present voted in favour of the motion.

7. NEW BUSINESS

There were no items.

8. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Remaining scheduled meetings, which take place at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted:

- April 6
- May 4
- June 1
- July 6
- September 7
- October 4
- November 2
- December 7

END OF MEETING

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Certified correct,

Original Signed
Councillor Jaimie McEvoy

Original Signed
Carilyn Cook, Committee Clerk