

City of Chilliwack
HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2023 – 3:00 pm
Dogwood Room – Held Electronically

Council Members:

Councillor Nicole Read, Chair

Heritage Advisory Committee:

Ray Ramey, Atchelitz Threshermen's Association
Jim Harris, CFB Chilliwack Historical Society
Jon Kinneman, Algra Brothers Developments
Tristan Evans, Community Member (Chilliwack Museum)
Dr. David Schaepe, Stó:lō Research & Resource Management Centre
Krista Butt, Heritage Chilliwack Society, President
Carlye Jones, Realtor
Brian Burr, Richlane Builders

City Staff:

Reuben Koole, Manager of Long Range Planning
Gillian Villeneuve, Director of Planning
Madelaine Peters, Senior Planner
Trish Alsip, Recording Secretary

Regrets:

Councillor Bud Mercer, Vice-Chair
Allison Colthorp, Executive Director, Tourism Chilliwack

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Read was Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm and provided territorial acknowledgement.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved /) That the Agenda for the Heritage Advisory Committee meeting of Thursday,
Seconded (March 2, 2023, be adopted as circulated.

Carried unanimously

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4. PRESENTATIONS / DELEGATION

5. OLD BUSINESS / ACTION ITEMS

6. NEW BUSINESS

1. Roundtable Introductions

Chair Read welcomed the committee and roundtable introductions were made. The committee participated in a brief icebreaker exercise.

Reuben Koole, Manager of Long Range Planning provided a presentation with respect to the following:

2. Process and Procedures

The Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC) is a Select Committee established by Council. The purpose of the HAC is to provide recommendations to Council regarding the implementation of the Heritage Strategic Action Plan (HSAP), along with other related heritage topics of interest, often communicating with other City of Chilliwack advisory committees with overlapping areas of interests. An overview of the composition and procedures of the committee was provided including the meeting date schedule and general meeting decorum.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

Information was provided regarding the membership of the committee and roles of committee members, staff and consultants. The committee will provide advice to Council on action items with the HSAP, supported by City policies and practices related to heritage and general heritage matters within the community.

4. Heritage Orientation

An overview of the Heritage program was provided below:

a) Current Heritage Tools

- 2040 Official Community Plan
The 2040 Official Community Plan (OCP) projects a long-term 30-year vision and is a statement of objectives and policies to help guide the Heritage Strategic Action Plan with decision making regarding heritage values, Indigenous relations, public art, sustainability and economic development.
- Chilliwack Heritage Inventory
The Chilliwack Heritage inventory, created in 1991, is a list of 129 historically significant sites, which are mostly privately owned single-detached buildings located throughout the city. Although the list provides some public awareness, there is no protection bestowed or enacted through this interest list.
- Voluntary Heritage Designation Policy
There are 16 sites currently in Chilliwack that have a bylaw that protects the site along with a Statement of Significance describing the site's history. Property owners voluntarily request this designation and the City supports them through funding the Statement of Significance preparation.

Heritage Strategic Action Plan

The Heritage Strategic Action Plan (HSAP) was initiated in 2019 and adopted by Council in June 2022. A summary was provided of the Community-Led Initiatives and City-Led Initiatives. Staff provided further detail with respect to the six (6) City-Led Initiatives as noted below:

1. Update Heritage Inventory (Short Term)
2. Create a Community Heritage Register (Short Term)
3. Support Voluntary Designation (Ongoing)
4. Establish Village Walk H.C.A. - Heritage Conservation Area (Short Term)
5. Enhance Heritage Planning (Ongoing)
6. Explore Heritage Incentives Program (Short Term)

Staff provided a summary of the Plan's implementation and timing of the actions and projects. The first action will be to update the Heritage Inventory.

b) Heritage Interest Inventory Update

Updating the Heritage Interest Inventory will begin following the HAC meeting, with staff issuing a Request for Quotations (RFQ) to procure a consultant for the work. The goal is to have a consultant on board in time for the HAC meeting in June, and discuss a more detailed work plan with the Committee. Staff estimate that the project will take about 8 months to complete (early 2024).

5. General Discussion

A query was raised with respect to whether there will be an opportunity to bring in other partners to assist staff while the project is underway; staff noted there will be opportunities for different groups within the community to engage through the Community-Led Initiatives.

Comment was provided with respect to both the Community-Led and City-Led Initiatives, suggesting ways to measure objectives, evaluate to what extent there have been achievements in these areas, and have annual assessment targets regarding any action items that are active or ongoing. Staff will review opportunities to measure or document progress on achieving HSAP actions.

A request was made for a copy of the original 1991 Inventory List; staff noted the City currently maintains an online list of the 16 designated sites www.chilliwack.com/heritage but does not keep the 1991 Inventory List online. Tristan Evans, Community Member, Chilliwack Museum, commented that the Chilliwack Museum has this document on their website and would provide the link.

https://www.chilliwackmuseum.ca/finding_aids/1991%20Chilliwack%20Heritage%20House%20Inventory.pdf

Discussion ensued with respect to an approach to expanding the scope of exploring heritage inventory and to have the inventory more inclusive. A suggestion was made to create a framework with the different types of heritage and include links to regulations, legislation, or policy. Staff noted this is part of the actions in the HSAP and will be a subsequent project following the Heritage Interest Inventory Update.

Further discussion ensued with respect to where the Heritage Inventory List could be housed in order for it be available to the public and have purpose, perhaps at the Chilliwack Museum with QR codes and/or at different locations throughout the City. Staff will review options including the City's online mapping system.

7. INFORMATION

1. 2023 Terms of Reference

The 2023 Heritage Advisory Committee Terms of Reference was provided for information.

2. 2023 Membership List

The 2023 Membership List was provided for information.

3. 2023 Meeting Date Schedule

The 2023 Meeting Date Schedule was provided for information.

4. Heritage Strategic Action Plan (2022)

A copy of the Heritage Strategic Action Plan (2022) was provided for information.

5. Heritage BC Conference (Chilliwack May 25-27, 2023)

8. ADJOURNMENT

Moved/) There being no further business, the Heritage Advisory Committee meeting adjourned
Seconded (at 4:17 pm.

Carried unanimously

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Heritage Advisory Committee is scheduled for Thursday, June 1, 2023 in the Dogwood Room.

Councillor Nicole Read, Chair