



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL
HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday, December 8, 2009

7:00 p.m.

Esquimalt Council Chamber, Municipal Hall

PRESENT: Liz Dill – Chair
Colin MacLock – Vice Chair
Councillor Don Linge
Councillor Lynda Hundleby
Shelly Burchnall
Sherri Robinson

STAFF: Barbara Snyder – Director of Development Services (Staff Liaison)

REGRETS: Jim MacMillan-Murphy
Deborah Liske – Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dill called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. LATE ITEMS

The following late item was introduced:

1. Add Agenda item **6. NEW BUSINESS** (1) Johnson Street Bridge

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Linge, seconded by Colin MacLock that the agenda of the Heritage Advisory Committee meeting of December 8, 2009 be approved as amended with the inclusion of the late agenda item and that consideration of items:

- 4. MINUTES**
- 5. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**
- 7. REPORT FROM STAFF LIAISON**
- 8. COMMUNICATIONS**
- 9. COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENT / REPORTS**

be deferred to the first scheduled meeting of the Heritage Advisory Committee in January 2010 and that the agenda be renumbered accordingly.

The motion **CARRIED**.

4. MOTION TO GO IN CAMERA

Moved by Councillor Linge, seconded by Sherri Robinson that the Heritage Advisory Committee convene *In Camera* pursuant to Section 90 (1) (M) of the Community Charter to discuss a matter that, under another enactment, is such that the public may be excluded from the meeting and that the general public be excluded.

The motion **CARRIED**.

The *In Camera* meeting of the Heritage Advisory Committee convened at 7:05 p.m.

The Special Heritage Advisory Committee meeting reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

(1) Johnson Street Bridge (**Late Item**)

A discussion took place regarding the bridge's significance to Victoria as well as its appearance as a gateway to Esquimalt. Some members felt that, as a committee responsible for heritage, the Heritage Advisory Committee should be providing comments to the City of Victoria. It was mentioned that, in the future there may be a request for Esquimalt to assist with funding the construction of a replacement bridge and therefore the Heritage Advisory Committee should indicate its preference for the refurbishing of the existing bridge rather than new construction.

Some committee members felt that a new bridge would be a better option as it would have a longer life. Heritage Advisory Committee members were split on the issue of whether the Committee should provide comments as a heritage group or provide comments individually. Others felt that Esquimalt should not be commenting on any option as it would be interfering with the matters of another municipality. In general members agreed that the Johnson Street Bridge is something of heritage value to the region and a unique example of a bascule bridge. It was mentioned that the Hallmark Society has already gone on record supporting saving the bridge.

It was suggested that Esquimalt put an article in its next Community Newsletter and invite residents' comments. It was recommended that the article already prepared by Martin Segger would be an appropriate one for the Newsletter. One member felt this was inappropriate, that people could voice their opinions directly to the City of Victoria in any case and noted that the Esquimalt Heritage Advisory Committee is accountable to Council, not to the residents. Another suggestion was that the various municipal heritage committees from throughout the CRD get together to make a recommendation to Victoria on this issue. It was noted that the Heritage Advisory Committee must be careful politically.

Moved by Colin MacLock, seconded by Shelly Burchnall that the Heritage Advisory Committee recommend to Council that either the Committee write a letter to the City of Victoria or that an article be placed in the next Esquimalt Newsletter outlining the heritage significance of the Johnson Street Bridge. The motion **CARRIED** with Councillor Hundleby and Sherri Robinson opposed.

6. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Heritage Advisory Committee will take place in January 2010 with the exact date to be confirmed by the Chair.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Liz Dill, Chair

This 26th day of January, 2010