

Culture Development Advisory Committee - Minutes

Present:

Councillor Villeneuve, Chair
Councillor Woods, Vice-Chair
A. Bowman
N. Chima
M. Gollan
U. Maxwell-Lewis
F. McLafferty
C. Thornley

Regrets:

C. Girardi
J. Kearns
B. McMurray

Staff Present:

S. Bhogal, Chief Librarian
L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and
Culture
R. Gallagher, Manager, Heritage Admin & Facilities
K. Gallie, Performing Arts Manager
D. Haley, Cultural Grants Liaison
K. Kooner, IIC Liaison, Economic Development
L. Saffery, Museum Manager
T. Ayotte, Cultural Development Coordinator
L. Anderson, Legislative Services

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was

Moved by M. Gollan
Seconded by C. Thornley
That the minutes of the Culture
Development Advisory Committee meeting of April 17, 2018, be adopted.
Carried

B. DELEGATIONS**1. Michael Gibbs, President, Surrey Historical Society**

Michael Gibbs, President, Surrey Historical Society (Society), was in attendance to provide an overview of the Society and to express appreciation for the cultural grant received and project opportunities realized as a result of the grant.

A short PowerPoint presentation was provided, highlighting the many accomplishments of the Society and outlining the future direction of the Society, including a number of workshops to support and enhance Surrey's diverse history.

The delegation informed that:

- The Surrey Historical Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to recording and preserving the history of Surrey. The society has over 70 members, holding monthly general meetings and has established various project-related committees.
- Through the receipt of the Cultural Grant, the Society is working to gain recognition and become more proactive with historical projects throughout Surrey. Recent projects include a digitization partnership with Surrey Archives, advocating for historic Anniedale School, conducting oral history interviews and providing support for the *Surrey: A City of Stories* project.

Produced as part of Canada 150 celebrations the book, *Surrey: A City of Stories*, pays tribute to Surrey's diverse and vibrant history, has won a Heritage BC Award, while also being a finalist for a BC Book Prize.

- The Society has several ongoing research projects. For example, research is being utilized to acknowledge and honour unmarked grave sites in both Cloverdale and the Surrey Centre Cemeteries.
- The Society was an active participant in stakeholder workshops during the development of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Strategic Plan, and continues to participate and support the Surrey Doors Open event.
- Future goals include succession planning by working to attract younger participants, and to support heritage initiatives undertaken by both the City and other heritage and cultural groups. There are also plans to refresh and update the website (www.surreyhistory.ca) with more interactive content.
- With the support of the Surrey Cultural Grant, the Society will be initiating a series of workshops at town centers in Newton, Crescent Beach, Ocean Park, Whalley, Fleetwood and Cloverdale. Through these interactive workshops, participants will be encouraged to donate artifacts and original documents to the Surrey Archives and Museum. Stories and information provided would also be shared on the Society's website.
- Project outcomes from the workshop series include enhancing the knowledge of Surrey's diverse history, creating learning opportunities throughout the city, developing a stronger role in supporting senior initiatives in Surrey and to build and strengthen diverse community connections.

In response to questions from the Committee, the following information was provided:

- It is anticipated that the next workshop series will take place in the fall, 2018; exact dates will be provided to the Committee once confirmed by the Society.
- The Museum Curator and Archivist will attend the historical community workshops to provide information regarding artifacts and original documents.
- The Guilford Library currently has a digitization booth. The hope would be to expand this technology to other facilities in the future.

Staff thanked the delegation and the Society for their continued efforts to promote and preserve Surrey History. Staff noted that the intention of the Cultural Grants Program is to support and enhance arts and heritage in Surrey through building and organizing community-based cultural activities. Workshops planned by the Society are an excellent way to achieve this initiative.

2. **Yalda Asadian, Community Enhancement Manager**

Yalda Asadian, Community Enhancement Manager, provided a PowerPoint presentation with respect to the Festival and Events Support Team (FEST) and highlighted several community events supported by the Committee.

Comments were as follows:

- FEST is a multi-agency committee with representatives from the RCMP, BC Ambulance, TransLink, Fraser Health, the Liquor board and City of Surrey staff from Engineering, Bylaws, Fire, Corporate Services and Parks, Recreation and Culture.
- The Committee review events hosted on City land with more than 250 people in attendance, or any event serving liquor with over 120 people in attendance.
- Approximately 210 community applications are reviewed by FEST annually.
- FEST works to attract special events into the city, to promote Surrey as a premier location to hold special events, to provide event organizers with assistance and advice and to ensure the safety of event attendees and the general public.
- Community events supported by FEST include six large parades (e.g. Santa Clause Parade, Cloverdale Rodeo Parade and the Vaisakhi Parade) and community festivals such as City of Bhangra, which focuses on youth and encourages active lifestyles through music and dance, and Surrey's Latin Festival (being hosted on the Civic Plaza this year, July 13-15).
- 2018 marked the launch of FEST Online. Applications can be submitted online and applicants are able to track their submissions throughout the application process. This streamlined approach allows for communication between different agencies and retains a record of any correspondence relating to the application.
- In addition to larger events, FEST provides support to smaller events through Celebration and Activity Grants. Block parties, community festivals and farmers markets are all eligible to apply for a grant.

In response to a question from the Committee, it was reported that a maximum grant of \$500 is available for Block Parties, while Community Festivals, such as the Clayton Community Festival, are eligible for a maximum of \$1,000. FEST also has a Block Party Tool Kit which is provided at no cost to the Block Party host.

C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Surrey Libraries: Strategic Plan Draft Themes

Surinder Bhogal, Chief Librarian, was in attendance to review the Surrey Libraries Strategic Plan Draft Themes and receive feedback from the Committee.

The following comments were made:

- Surrey Libraries is consulting with staff, patrons, stakeholders and the public to obtain input on a new strategic plan. The plan will guide library priorities for the next five years.

- The Library Board held a planning day in February 2018 to develop a set of draft themes for the strategic plan. Themes that have emerged to guide the strategic plan include:
 - Foster connections;
 - Create welcoming and inclusive spaces;
 - Enhance strategic community partnerships;
 - Build library organization and staff; and
 - Promote literacy, learning and diversity.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee provided comments with respect on how well the themes resonate and align with the Committee's priorities. Comments were as follows:

- Diversity could be promoted through additional literature, programing and films from the Indigenous community.
- Linking the library to arts and culture is important. Perhaps visual representations through art, film and youth theatre could be considered.
- Libraries have become gathering places for the community, similar to a community centre. It is suggested that the central theme for the strategic plan could be to foster connections, and the other themes identified could serve as objectives working out of that main theme.
- In order to create a welcoming and inclusive space, consideration of demographics and changing demographics within the city should be considered.
- Pop-up libraries could promote and encourage literacy and learning.
- Part of promoting learning should be to provide assistance and support for developing technical skills. Implementing programs like Adobe at library computers could be useful for the community.
- Inclusiveness is a large theme for the Committee. Creating welcoming and inclusive spaces in very important.
- Ensuring that Surrey heritage is involved and interconnected with Surrey Libraries should be a priority.

Ms. Bhogal requested that Committee members provide any additional feedback to her directly, or through the online survey at the Surrey Libraries website (available until May 31, 2018).

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. CORRESPONDENCE

G. INFORMATION ITEMS**1. 2018 Service Delivery Plan – Parks, Recreation and Culture**
File No. 0115-01

L. Cavan, GM Parks, Recreation and Culture, reported that the 2018 Service Delivery Plan is now available. The Parks, Recreation and Culture Service Delivery Plan is based on Council priorities, the Recreation and Culture 10-Year Strategic Plan and the needs of the community, and is developed to act as a framework for the department's priorities and annual work plan. The six main themes developed for 2018 include:

1. A Vibrant and Creative City;
2. An Engaged and Healthy Community;
3. Leaders in Environmental Stewardship;
4. High Quality Parks and Facilities for All Residents;
5. Effective Management of Resources; and,
6. Great Place to Work.

In response questions from the Committee, it was reported that discussions with Cultural and Marketing staff have been initiated regarding the opportunity to provide a video profiling recipients of Cultural Grants. It is anticipated that the video would be launched in early October, 2018 in time for the Surrey Civic Treasures Awards.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chair expressed appreciation to Ms. Cavan and the entire PRC team in their continued efforts to build a thriving social framework for the city.

2. 100th Anniversary Exhibition - Crescent Beach Swimming Club
File No. 7800-01

L. Saffery, Museum Manager, reported that beginning June 30th, a temporary community-led traveling exhibition, celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Crescent Beach Swimming Club, can be viewed at the Crescent Beach Swimming Clubhouse, located at the foot of McBride Avenue, adjacent to Blackie Spit, in Crescent Beach. The exhibit will remain with the Crescent Beach Swimming Club over the summer and will be shown at multiple centennial events until Labour Day.

Mr. Saffery further reported that Committee and community members are also invited to join the VIP list for the Museum of Surrey. Members on the VIP list receive information regarding exclusive invitations, special events, sneak peaks for the Surrey Museum and are eligible to win prizes. Those interested can sign up online at www.surrey.ca/museum.

H. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Verbal Reports

- M. Gollan, President, Semiahmoo Arts Society, informed the Committee of the following events:
 - **Art Adoption – June 9, 2018 - 10:00 am - 4:00 pm:** Semiahmoo Arts Society will be hosting their first ever Art Adoption Fund Raiser. Paintings, posters, pottery, prints and porcelain can be donated and adopted out to new homes. All proceeds go to support the Semiahmoo Arts Society.
 - **Zero – 360 Literary Open Mic – June 14, 2018 - 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm:** A long running open mic series, hosted this year at the South Surrey Recreation and Arts Centre. The series is a collaboration of emerging and experienced writers sharing poetry, short stories, chapters of novels, memoirs and song lyrics. Sign-up for the open mic starts at 7:00 pm, with readings beginning at 7:30 pm.
 - **Local Abstractions: A Nonrepresentational Community Art Show:** Opening Reception - June 21, 2018 – 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Exhibit runs from June 13 - July 19, 2018 at the Turnball and Corridor Galleries.
- U. Maxwell-Lewis, Surrey Historical Society and Friends of the Surrey Museum and Archives Society, reported that the 2018 Surrey Festival of Dance was held April 3-28. The event hosted some of North America's finest up-and-coming dancers, and was hugely successful.
- L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, reported that the National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebrations and Wellness event is being held at Holland Park on June 21, 2018, from 3:00 pm - 8:00 p.m. Highlights of the event include a free community barbeque (4:30 pm - 6:30 pm), along with several traditional cultural activities and performances. Opening ceremonies will begin at 4:00 pm.
- The Chair reported that the City has launched a call for submissions for its new “Play Surrey” contest, offering local talent a chance to perform on the Maple Leaf Stage, presented by Tim Hortons, at Surrey Canada Day on July 1, 2018 and the Surrey Fusion Festival on July 21, 2018.

I. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Culture Development Advisory Committee is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 19, 2018, at 2:30 pm, 2E Community Room B.**

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by C. Thornley
Seconded by M. Gollan
That the Culture Development Advisory

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Culture Development Advisory Committee adjourned at 3:57 pm

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Councillor Villeneuve, Chairperson
Culture Development Advisory Committee