

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIGHORN NO. 8

HERITAGE RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD SEPTEMBER 23, 2009 AT THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE IN EXSHAW

PRESENT: PAUL ADAMS MEMBER (Council)
DENE COOPER EX-OFFICIO (Reeve)
MARIA DUNKI MEMBER (Council)
BERT DYCK MEMBER (Public)
LYNDA GRISCHKAT MEMBER (Public)
PAUL RYAN CHAIRMAN (Council)

STAFF: GREG BIRCH ASSISTANT MUNICIPAL MANAGER
ULRIKA GILLESPIE MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT

REGRETS: DENNIS APEDAILE MEMBER (Public)

GUESTS: MATTHEW FRANCIS, BRENDA MANWEILER Attendance varied throughout the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. Ms. Gillespie said that she did not want to suggest any changes to the agenda but did want the Committee members to go to item IVFi in the agenda package and delete the personal information from sites 12 to 16 in Phase II of the survey that should not have been shown. The Committee members agreed to this so that it would not be part of the agenda package and public record. No additional agenda items were proposed by the Heritage Resources Committee (HRC) members or staff.

MOTION 01.09.09 DYCK THAT

the Heritage Resources Committee approve the agenda as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Chairman asked if there were any changes proposed to the August 24, 2009 minutes. None were noted.



MOTION 02.09.09 ADAMS THAT

the Heritage Resources Committee approve the minutes of the August 24, 2009 Heritage Resources Committee meeting as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IV. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

A. Archives Society of Alberta

Ms. Gillespie said that she had been in contact with Mr. Gourlie and that he was willing to come and talk to the HRC about archives. The Committee agreed to invite him to the October meeting if he is available.

B. Copyright of Photographs

Ms. Gillespie said that the Copyright Act is very clear: if you hire someone to take a photograph for you, the photograph belongs to you. Ms. Dunki asked for clarification regarding volunteers. It was suggested that volunteers could complete an agreement that waives their rights. This could include a payment of a \$1.00 although this might disrupt their amateur status. Dene Cooper stated that his experience was that if a photograph is given to you, you can use it for the intended use. The Committee also discussed the process for handling "gifted" photographs, and Ulrika Gillespie noted that administration is working on preparation of a gift release form. Mr. Cooper indicated that there may be the need to research the origin of the photograph, to make sure the original photographer was giving the release.

The group then discussed the desirability of advertising for volunteer photographer, with expertise, to take pictures for the MD. It was suggested that the MD's newsletter could be used to advertise this interest. The Committee also expressed the need to prepare a professional photographer list, to take photographs at more important events. Staff agreed to work on these items.

C. Cemetery

Ms. Gillespie noted the letter that had been sent to Lafarge and reported that Lafarge was agreeable to some kind of cemetery maintenance. Joel Taguchi of Lafarge had informed her that Lafarge was discussing this with Alberta Sustainable Resource Development (ASRD) as the cemetery is on Crown land. She said she will provide an update when new information is received. The Committee agreed that if Lafarge wanted the HRC to write a letter to ASRD supporting some kind of maintenance, that the Committee would do that. Mr. Birch said that Lafarge works closely with ASRD on many issues and that this item could be brought forward in a few months for an update.

The Committee had a brief discussion around grave sites and noted that they should be recorded somewhere. Ms. Gillespie said that although graves are not eligible for historic designation, the location of the grave east of Exshaw near Kananaskis Settlement is listed on the survey and the grave behind the Seebe store should be captured in the future when sites in Seebe are surveyed. Mr. Cooper said that some municipalities have maps with graves marked on them and this is good information for landowners when planning any kind of development.



D. Staff Time and Resources/Projects and Budget Consideration

Mr. Birch said that the Committee had discussed staff resources and projects at the August meeting, and stated that staff had been able to work on the survey project and administrative work related to the meetings since then but did not have the resources to do much more. He said that when the Heritage Resources Committee was formed, any work generated from it was in addition to already existing work and that no additional staff had been hired to handle the extra load. He said that the Committee had decided at the August meeting to determine a dollar amount to recommend to Council during 2010 budget discussions. He said that the Committee had asked staff to provide a list of projects and cost estimates in order to start Committee discussions on that budget amount.

Mr. Birch explained that he had started the list and the Committee could discuss all projects on the list, but he had not been able to complete it. Mr. Birch then provided a verbal description of the projects and related costs which included: photograph of current events, preservation of Lafarge related heritage items, archives of MD material of significance, oral histories, private historic photos and memorabilia, family trees, historic book listing/collection, review of obits for relevant histories/passings, engaging neighbouring municipalities in heritage preservation initiatives, preservation of old grave sites, and development of a museum.

The Chairman then asked each member for their comments. The Committee agreed that it was important to budget money for the photographing of current events. They suggested that the item regarding preservation of Lafarge-related heritage items should instead be called industry related heritage items. They agreed the other high priorities for budget money in 2010 could be oral histories, archives for both MD material and for private historical photos and memorabilia, book listing and collection, and the engagement of neighbouring municipalities. There was agreement that family trees and the review of obits were not things they were especially interested in. There was some interest in the idea of a museum but not for the municipality to develop and run it.

Mr. Cooper said that the Committee should focus on the survey and inventory and, for the other projects, that it was important that the Committee determine how such information would be organized and to consider how it would be distributed.

The Committee asked administration to bring this agenda item back to the next meeting with more details and in writing. Mr. Birch said that he would do that and consider the member's comments for inclusion.

The Chairman asked for a quick break at 10:42 am and the meeting resumed at 10:53 am.

The Chairman noted that Ms. Grischkat was not able to stay to the end of the meeting but wanted to be present for discussion of item V5G. The members agreed to move to item V5G on the agenda.

G. St. Bernard's Catholic Church- Preservation

Mr. Birch said that the Committee has had a lot of discussion around the church at previous meetings and now a decision needs to be made in response to the letter received from Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools (CRCS), a copy of which was in the agenda package.



CRCS to relocate the 1967 portion of the Church to Canmore in the spring and to demolish the 1907 portion at some time after October 1, 2009. However, CRCS is offering to donate the 1907 portion to the MD of Bighorn if the MD wants it. Mr. Birch outlined five options in the decision report that could guide the MD's response. He said the first option is to ask for a time extension to the October 1st, 2009 deadline to mid November; the second option is not to accept the donation; thirdly to ask Matthew Francis from the Alberta's Culture and Community Spirit department for his opinion on the merits of taking possession of the church and preserving it, and if it might still be eligible for designation if it were moved; fourthly, to obtain more detailed information on the building's structural integrity and the likely costs of preserving it; and lastly, to hold a public meeting to consult with Bighorn's rate payers to determine if there is broad interest in preserving it and, if possible, to find a group that could lead the project.

The Committee began their discussion around the possible demolition of the 1907 portion of the church by talking about the possibility of asbestos being present. Ms. Grischkat noted that tax payer money should not be used for the preservation of the church and she would like to see public consultation undertaken to determine if there might be community interest in preserving it.

The Committee agreed that they would like to have more detailed information about the structural integrity of the church. They also agreed that before any decisions could be made, they needed to have cost information. Ms. Dunki and Mr. Ryan said that they did not want to see the tax payer paying for the preservation of the church.

The Chairmen asked Mr. Francis to comment on the church. Mr. Francis said that the situation was complex in that the church was on Crown land leased to Lafarge but there was the possibility of municipal designation. He said during the inventory project it might be an opportunity to bring in an inspector to assess the building and more time would be necessary.

Ms. Dunki said she could support finding out more information so that the public could be better informed in any decision making. Mr. Ryan said that it would be important to have cost information before any public meeting. Other members thought that the public should be consulted even without good cost estimates in order to inform them about the plans for the church.

It was noted that the church was the only building left from old Exshaw in its original location. Mr. Francis said that the church may be a type of exemption and eligible for designation if it were moved nearby. He said that he could ask the designation committee if they thought it were possible. The decision would be made based on information from the Statement of Significance, which was still a draft, and other locational criteria.

Ms. Grischkat asked if a demolition permit was needed for interior work, such as removal of walls, and Mr. Birch said no. He explained that a demolition permit was issued under the Safety Codes Act and it basically covered demolishing the building safely.



Ms. Grischkat said she would like the MD to request an extension to the October 1 decision deadline suggested by CRCS, and that a request be made that CRCS not alter the 1907 building.

Mr. Ryan said that an option to protect the building from demolition would be to have Council issue a notice of intent to designate it as a historic resource.

Ms. Gillespie noted CRCS had applied for demotion permits for the relocation of the 1967 portion of the church and for the demolition of the 1907 portion. She said that the Safety Codes Officer had issued the permits but they would not be released until the permit fees were paid. Apart from that, though, the MD would have no strong reason not to issue the demolition permits.

MOTION 03.09.09 GRISCHKAT THAT

the HRC request Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools to extend the October 1, 2009 deadline, as stated in their letter of September 2, 2009, to year end 2009.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 04.09.09 GRISCHKAT THAT

the HRC seek to protect the 1907 portion of the church from any immediate demolition by asking Council to issue a notice of intent to designate the 1907 portion of the church as a municipal historical resource.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Chairman asked for a short break at 11:42 am and the meeting continued at 11:53 am.

Fi St. Bernard's Catholic Church- Preservation

The Chairman welcomed the delegation from the Municipal Heritage Partnership Program, Matthew Francis and Brenda Manweiler.

Mr. Francis said he wanted to commend the HRC for undertaking the survey and the inventory, and said that the binder he was handing out to the members would be helpful in understanding the preservation process. He said that the best way to preserve a building is to create a future for the building by using it. So if the MD decides to preserve the old Catholic Church, it should establish a use for it early on in the process.

He said that he would like to offer training to the HRC. He said that statement of significance training would be valuable in the inventory process and it will help the committee evaluate any statement of significance when it comes from the consultant. He noted that the inventory is based on values, and not on architecture and age as in the past. He said there are three aspects to the inventory: assess the buildings eligibility to be on the list of historic places; determine the heritage values of significance and integrity; and



finally assess its ability to communicate that significance. He said that the statement of significance is the main product of the inventory and noted that the inventory is information for the HRC and Council to use. He suggested that the training take place in January.

Mr. Ryan noted the time was now 12:10 p.m. and the Committee agreed to continue the meeting through lunch.

Ms. Manweiler gave a presentation about preservation. She said that the old approach was based on history and architecture and the opinion of experts. She said that there had been changes since 2004- 2005 and the new approach was based on community values. She provided examples of how this change had affected local preservation efforts.

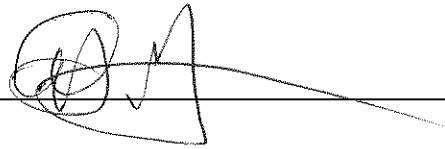
Bert Dyck left the meeting at 12:30p.m.

After Ms. Manweiler's presentation, the committee discussed St. Bernard's church. Mr. Francis said that the Committee should review the statement of significance to see if it reflects the values the community has for it. He also discussed preservation funding, noting that it was a matching grant program, that the Province could match up to \$50,000, and that there could be more than one request.

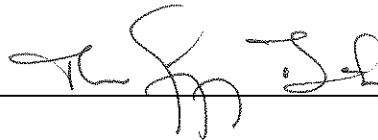
Ms. Grischkat left the meeting at 12:52 p.m. after thanking Mr. Francis and Ms. Manweiler for their presentations.

The Chairman declared that there was no longer a quorum and adjourned the meeting at 12:52 p.m.

The next meeting date was discussed and the remaining Committee members agreed to schedule it for October 8th, at 9:00 am in the Council Chambers.



CHAIR



DESIGNATED OFFICER

