

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIGHORN NO. 8

HERITAGE RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD DECEMBER 7, 2009 AT THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE IN EXSHAW

PRESENT: PAUL ADAMS MEMBER (Council)
MARIA DUNKI MEMBER (Council)
BERT DYCK MEMBER (Public)
LYNDA GRISCHKAT MEMBER (Public)
PAUL RYAN CHAIRMAN (Council)

REGRETS: DENNIS APEDAILE MEMBER (Public)

STAFF: GREG BIRCH ASSISTANT MUNICIPAL MANAGER
ULRIKA GILLESPIE MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT

I. CALL TO ORDER

Greg Birch called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Mr. Birch explained that the given Council's Organizational Meeting where at members were reappointed to the Heritage Resources Committee (HRC) for another one-year term, a Chairperson needs to be selected for that. He called for nominations and Councillor Adams nominated Councillor Ryan. Councillor Dunki asked that nominations cease. All members agreed that nominations cease, and Councillor Ryan accepted and then assumed the chair.

MOTION 01.12.09. DUNKI THAT

Councillor Ryan is elected as Chairman of the Heritage Resources Committee based on the informal process utilized by the Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Gillespie handed out a one page tracking form for item VA. No additional agenda items were proposed by the Heritage Resources Committee members or staff.

MOTION 02.12.09 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 November 2, 2009 minutes. None were noted.

MOTION 03.12.09 ADAMS THAT

the Heritage Resources Committee approve the minutes of the November 2, 2009 and Heritage Resources Committee meetings as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IV. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

A. St. Bernard's Catholic Church

1. Results from Public Meeting

Mr. Birch said that seven people attended the meeting, including Committee member Lynda Grischkat. Eryn Buckle from Heritage Collaborative Inc. also attended. Mr. Birch said he had explained how the preservation initiative had developed and why the public meeting was being held, and that Eryn Buckle had discussed the draft statement of significance for the church. Mr. Birch then provided his impression of the meeting's outcome to the HRC. He said that one of the attendees works in the heritage building preservation industry and had volunteered 100 hours of his time. Another attendee, a local pastor and volunteer fire fighter, was called out on a fire call and had to leave but arrangements had been made to meet with him separately at a future date. Mr. Birch said that one person was interested in the project but not able to lead it, and asked for a bit of time to see if she could round up support. She believes a church would be an important building for the community. Another person felt the church should be saved because of its age and but she could not take a leading role either.

Chairman Ryan said that he had spoken with the Exshaw Community Association and that they were interested, however, they did not believe they had the resources to undertake a church preservation initiative.

Mr. Birch said one option that had been suggested at the meeting was that the MD could donate land between the fire hall and the operations building. He said that it would probably be better for all parties to relocate the church. However, he had noted that it would be a Council decision as to whether or not that land was available.

The Chairman suggested that a letter be sent to the attendees thanking them for their participation and interest. Staff agreed to do so.

2. Discussion with Municipal Heritage Partnership Program (MHPP)

Mr. Birch said staff had spoken with Matthew Francis and Brenda Manweiler from the MHPP and they had said that the provincial designation committee would likely agree to make an exception for eligibility if the old St. Bernard's church was moved. There was a brief discussion around provincial grants and Mr. Birch clarified that the funding was not for operational costs but rather for preservation and restoration of character defining elements.

The Committee discussed the reality of operational costs and the need for groups to be aware of that for all kinds of projects. They suggested that there is a general misunderstanding of the public in terms of who pays for what with preservation initiative in general.

Handwritten signature and initials, possibly 'TCB', in the bottom right corner of the page.

The Committee agreed that for this project to work, a group of people needed to support it and they agreed that they would like to give the two interested people who attended the meeting time to see if they can find some other interested people in the community. It was also noted that the land and building do not belong to the MD.

Mr. Birch said that staff had spoken with a representative from Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools and they were not in a rush to demolish the building in the next month but he would like to have a decision for Council to consider in January.

3. Decision on Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools' Offer

Mr. Birch said that the Committee needed to make a decision based on the previous discussion.

MOTION 04.12.09 ADAMS THAT

letters be sent to the attendees who showed interest in the church clarifying that the MD is neither owner of the land on which the church sits nor of the 1907 church building but that there is an opportunity to preserve the church if there is community interest, and that anyone interested in taking a leadership role in preserving the church should make that interest known before the end of the year.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Tracking Form

Mr. Birch reminded the Committee that the tracking form was an idea from the November meeting. The purpose is to keep unfinished business items off of the agenda unless there was something to discuss.

The Committee members reviewed the form and made some suggestions to improve it and staff said they would incorporate those suggestions into the form for the next meeting. The Chairman suggested that the meeting minutes could show, in the margin, action on items so that the minutes and tracking form would be coordinated. There was discussion too around submitting an annual report to Council, and that the tracking form could help with this.

B. Site Survey Lot 6, Plan 89B

Ms. Gillespie said that she had spoken with the landowner since Council's decision to support the preservation of the Grier House site and that he was to be meeting with Alberta Transportation to view the revised road drawings. She said that the land owner had hoped to phone after that meeting but that he could not as he was going to be away.

C. Recordable events

1. Olympic Torch Relay

There was a brief discussion around the event. Ms. Gillespie said that Emily Smith, the MD's liaison with the torch relay organizers, had spoken to her and Greg Birch about the event and had a few details about it. She said they discussed having a photographer for the event and it was decided that Ms. Gillespie would manage the photography as Ms. Smith would be busy enough with the event. Ms. Gillespie said that they would have more details in January.



Councillor Adams left the room at 10:07 a.m.

Remove
from
tracking
form
question of
status of
Exshaw
Historical
Society

D. Exshaw Historical Society

Greg Birch said that the Committee had been interested to find out if there was still an active Exshaw Historical Society. If there was, there might be opportunities to work together. He said at the public information meeting for St. Bernard's Church, the Exshaw Historical Society came up in conversation. One of the attendees explained that it had been formed for the purpose of the Exshaw Heart of the Valley book project and once the final accounting had been done, the society was disbanded and is no longer functioning or active.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Promotion

Mr. Birch said there was nothing to discuss for this standing item unless the HRC members had a suggestion. None were provided.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Letter from Lafarge Re: Old St. Bernard's Catholic Church

Mr. Birch said this letter from Lafarge is simply being provided to the Committee members as information. No action is required. The Chairman asked for copies to be provided to the people who had come to the public meeting and showed some interest.

VIII. EDUCATIONAL/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – None

IX. IN CAMERA – None

X. NEXT MEETING DATE

Before discussing this item, Councillor Dunki noted that she will be pick up the MD's copy of More Big Hill Country on December 19th when she will pick up her personal copy.

Bert Dyck and Lynda Grischkat both said they would be away for the proposed January 4th, 2010 meeting. Ms. Gillespie said that January 4th is the date MHPP had been scheduled to come and provide training and that Greg Birch was going to be absent as well.

Councillor Adams returned to the meeting at 10:17 a.m.

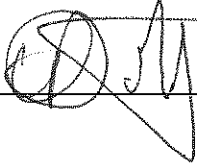
The Committee discussed alternative dates and asked that January 13th or 18th be suggested to the MHPP staff and hopefully the meeting could be switched to one of those dates. The members agreed to set the date of the next meeting by email based on that MHPP availability.



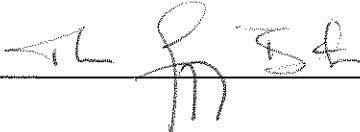
XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 05.12.09 GRISCHKAT THAT

the Heritage Resources Committee meeting be adjourned at 10:20 a.m.



CHAIR



DESIGNATED
OFFICER