



City of Port Moody

Minutes

Heritage Commission

Minutes of the meeting of the Heritage Commission held on Thursday, March 11, 2021 via Zoom.

Present

Councillor Meghan Lahti, Chair
Dianna Brown
Laura Dick
Rebeca Salas
Joan Stuart

Absent

Councillor Diana Dilworth, Vice-Chair
Christopher Pope (Regrets)

In Attendance

Mary De Paoli – Manager of Policy Planning
Philip Lo – Committee Coordinator

1. Call to Order

Call to Order

1.1 The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes

2.1 HC21/007
Moved, seconded, and CARRIED
THAT the minutes of the Heritage Commission meeting held on Thursday, February 11, 2021 be adopted.

3. Unfinished Business

4. New Business

Storyboard Program Update

4.1 Storyboard Subcommittee

There were no updates from the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee noted that members will be meeting to discuss the storyboard process and approach, and to update the procedures manual.

On This Spot Heritage App

4.2 Manager of Policy Planning

Staff provided a presentation on the On This Spot app, noting that the Manager of Economic Development had previously presented to the Commission on this topic. Staff noted the following:

- On This Spot is a Vancouver-based app used by 16 Canadian cities;
- the app features “then-and-now” photos of locations and points of interest as part of self-guided walking tours;
- photos are often accompanied by descriptions and period context;
- the app can feature local businesses and attractions;
- tours and photos can be used by the City for marketing and promotional purposes;
- potential tours for Port Moody include Heritage Conservation Areas of Ioco Townsite and Moody Centre;
- staff research shows that the app provides a complete and authentic heritage experience;
- the app can provide user analytics; and
- the Commission had previously endorsed proceeding with the premium app package.

The Commission noted the following in discussion:

- the Port Moody Heritage Society is supportive of this app, and can assist in providing information to the app;
- the app has grown in functionality since it was first presented to the Commission; it supports heritage and is a sponsor of the Heritage BC Conference;
- the access to analytics is helpful; and
- overall there is a lot of value to the app.

Action: staff to report back on the status of any reporting to Council regarding the app.

ESRI Mapping Tool for Heritage Walking Tours

4.3 Manager of Policy Planning

Staff gave a demonstration of the City’s ESRI GIS-based mapping tool, noting the following:

- the tool has the ability to host interactive walking tours, such as the public art walk for Inlet Centre, and can be used as an alternative for hosting heritage walking tours;
- the tool is straightforward to use, and the most time-consuming aspect will be locating appropriate photos to use;
- staff can begin looking into the feasibility of hosting heritage walks with this tool, if there is no budget for the

On This Spot app;

- a subcommittee could be formed to determine what heritage tours can be done with this tool, and to provide historic information from archival materials; and
- additional staff resources may be needed, and Council approval may be needed to add this item to the Commission's work plan;

The Committee noted the following in discussion:

- the City's tool uses more staff and local resources, but is at no additional cost; for the On This Spot app, the company would do the majority of the work;
- the advantages of On This Spot include its app format (rather than a tool hosted on the City's website) and the greater reach of its marketing, which is very important and could be better for driving tourism;
- there are opportunities to involve local volunteers and museums for community education and collaboration;
- the Commission had endorsed the On This Spot app as it was initially seen as a potential economic driver, which was the primary motivation; the City's tool may function just as well from an educational perspective;
- the City's tool can be used to demonstrate to Council and the Economic Development Committee as to what can be achieved, and as something that could be worth further investment;
- the City's tool can be used as a pilot project to gauge the level of traction and uptake, and then proceed accordingly;
- the City should advertise and market this tool;
- the Heritage Society is currently developing a walking tour pending available funding; the City's tool could potentially provide support; this could be discussed at next week's Heritage Society board meeting and reported back at the next Commission meeting; and
- the City's tool can be used to highlight other heritage areas in the City such as Clarke Street.

Staff noted the following:

- a walking tour using the City's tool can potentially be developed this year; the On This Spot app could potentially take longer;
- the City's tool may incur an additional annual operating expense; and
- the 100th anniversary of loco Townsite could be an opportunity for a heritage walking tour using the City's tool.

Wayfinding Project Update

4.4 Manager of Policy Planning

Staff provided an update on the Wayfinding Project, noting the following:

- key locations for wayfinding signage need to be identified;
- the contracted design firm, Cygnus, has local representation and has already reviewed existing signage;
- the accessible aspect of wayfinding will be considered;
- in order for Cygnus to fully comprehend the scope of heritage assets in the City and to determine the City's needs, staff will provide information on the many heritage points of interest in the City;
- Cygnus will develop a phased strategy which can be budgeted and implemented in phases over time;
- different signage in different neighbourhoods can be considered;
- Cygnus will consider installing signs on existing infrastructure whenever possible; existing signs could be replaced with new signs;
- the Economic Development Manager can provide regular updates on this project to the Commission; and
- the Wayfinding Subcommittee will continue to be involved in the project going forward.

The Committee noted the following in discussion:

- ensure that the wayfinding signs are streamlined so there are not different types of signage across the City; and
- distinctive heritage street signs on Clarke Street should be considered.

Indigenous Subcommittee Update

4.5 Indigenous Subcommittee

There were no updates from the Subcommittee.

Stone Marker Subcommittee Update

4.6 Stone Marker Subcommittee

There were no updates from the Subcommittee.

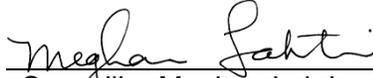
5. Information

Staff Updates

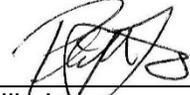
5.1 There were no staff updates.

6. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:07pm.



Councillor Meghan Lahti,
Chair



Philip Lo,
Committee Coordinator