



MINUTES OF THE PRINCE GEORGE HERITAGE COMMISSION MEETING

December 8, 2022

11:00 am

2nd Floor Conference Room of City Hall
1100 Patricia Boulevard, Prince George, BC

PRESENT: Mr. Ethan Fredeen <Chair>
Mr. George Davison
Mr. Kim Rutherford
Ms. Jennifer Herkes <via Zoom>
Ms. Rachel Knudsen <via Zoom>

REGRETS: Ms. Karen Cameron
Ms. Victoria Gould
Mr. Larry Merritt

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Kali Holahan, Planner/Staff Liaison
Ms. Imogene Broberg-Hull, Planner/Staff Liaison
Ms. Catharine Sikobe, Legislative Services Assistant

A. COMMENCEMENT

The meeting was called to order at 11:01 a.m.

B. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Fredeen advised of an amendment to the agenda to include discussion of formalizing processes for recognition awards and Mr. Rutherford expressed desire to propose a research project into elementary school architecture in Prince George.

Moved By Mr. Rutherford

Seconded By Mr. Davison

That the agenda for the December 8, 2022 meeting of the Prince George Heritage Commission be amended by moving item D.8 – 2022 Heritage Commission Annual Report to Council to D.10 and adding items D.8 – Formalizing Processes for Recognition Awards and D.9 – Elementary School Architecture Research, and that the agenda for the December 8, 2022 meeting of the Prince George Heritage Commission, BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED.

Carried Unanimously

C. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

C.1 Minutes from the Prince George Heritage Commission meeting held June 9, 2022

Moved By Mr. Rutherford

Seconded By Ms. Knudsen

That the minutes of the Prince George Heritage Commission meeting held June 9, 2022, BE ADOPTED.

Carried Unanimously

D. NEW BUSINESS

D.1 Prince George Heritage Commission Working Groups

Ms. Sikobe advised of the role of working groups within a Council Committee.

Discussion and review of previous working groups commenced. The commission discussed the relevance of the various working groups moving forward and the effectiveness of working groups for furthering work between quarterly meetings.

The Commission discussed the importance of re-establishing Working Groups and agreed that in the interest of time, Working Group membership would be discussed via email.

Moved By Mr. Fredeen

Seconded By Mr. Davison

That the Prince George Heritage Commission REFORMS the “Heritage Buildings/Heritage Register”, “Heritage Interpretive Signs”, and “Community Outreach” Working Groups.

Carried Unanimously

D.2 Recognition Plaques

Mr. Davison provided an overview of his research into Mr. Charles Sager and Mr. Steve Berlinic.

D.2.1 Charles Sager

Sager was a playwright, composer, and actor who owned and operated a barber shop and bathhouse in Prince George in the early 1900s. In March 1915, Sager moved his business to 3rd Avenue and George Street.

In 1921, during a move to rid Prince George of its 25-30 black residents, Mr. Sager wrote an open letter to Council respectfully lecturing readers on racism.

After the death of his wife in 1926 and her funeral held at Knox Presbyterian Church, Sager barbered for four more years and opened “The Princess Beauty Shop”, a shop for women in 1928 before returning to Brooklyn in 1930 where he died in 1957.

Mr. Davison recommended that an interpretive sign be erected in front of the previous barber shop location at 3rd Avenue and George Street.

D.2.2 Steve Berlinic

Berlinic was involved in communist movements in 1932. After his death in 1933 a large funeral and May Day Parade were held in his honour. The gravestone that was erected still stands in the Prince George Cemetery.

The Commission discussed the individuals and options for interpretive signs or plaques in their recognition. As a formalized process is not yet in place, further discussion will be postponed.

Mr. Fredeen thanked Mr. Davison for his work and research and Ms. Holahan advised that for recognition there are two streams: 1. Buildings and 2. People.

Formalization of processes for recognition of individuals will be discussed as part of the “Heritage Buildings/Heritage Register” Working Group responsibilities.

The Committee further discussed the importance of collaborating with the Lheidli T’enneh First Nation regarding recognition. This topic was further discussed in Item D.7 – 2023 Heritage Commission Work Plan.

D.3 Heritage Recognition Awards

Mr. Fredeen proposed tabling discussion of Heritage Recognition Awards until a process is formalized.

Moved By Mr. Fredeen

Seconded By Ms. Knudsen

That the Prince George Heritage Commission TABLES discussion of Heritage Recognition Awards until a process for accepting nominations, determining recipients and distributing awards is formalized.

Carried Unanimously

D.4 Heritage Week

Ms. Sikobe provided information regarding past initiatives of the Commission in participation of Heritage Week through Heritage BC. The Commission discussed the options and agreed that Mr. Fredeen would request a Heritage Week proclamation from the City of Prince George Council.

Moved By Ms. Knudsen

Seconded By Mr. Rutherford

That the Prince George Heritage Commission REQUESTS a proclamation of BC Heritage Week from the City of Prince George Council.

Carried Unanimously

D.5 Regional Heritage Fair

Ms. Sikobe provided information regarding past initiatives of the Commission in participation of the Regional Heritage Fair hosted by the Exploration Place. The Commission discussed availability and further options.

The “Community Outreach” working group will reach out to the organizers before the March 9, 2023 meeting of the Commission to provide further details.

D.6 Standing Item: Heritage Registry Considerations

The Committee discussed the decision making matrix and process for decision making as it pertains to the Heritage Registry.

Staff Liaisons will follow-up on the matrix and clarify the process.

D.6.1. Knox United Church for 1448 5th Avenue

The Commission agreed to proceed with recommending to Council that 1448 5th Avenue (Trinity United Methodist Church, formerly known as Knox United Church) be placed on the Prince George Heritage Register as all work has been completed.

Moved By Mr. Fredeen
Seconded By Mr. Davison

That the Prince George Heritage Commission RECOMMENDS to Council including 1448 5th Avenue (Knox United Church) on the Prince George Heritage Register.

Carried Unanimously

D.6.2. 2299 Laurier Crescent – House by Greenwell

The Commission discussed the nomination and noted lack of information as to the significance of the property. The Commission agreed to postpone discussion of 2299 Laurier Crescent until the process has been clarified by staff.

Moved By Mr. Fredeen
Seconded By Mr. Davison

That the Prince George Heritage Commission TABLES discussion regarding 2299 Laurier Crescent.

Carried Unanimously

D.7 2023 Heritage Commission Work Plan

The Commission reviewed the 2023 Work Plan and added relevant work plan items such as formalizing processes and consulting with the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation in registry and recognition considerations.

Moved By Mr. Fredeen
Seconded By Mr. Rutherford

That the Prince George Heritage Commission APPROVES AS AMENDED the 2023 Heritage Commission Work Plan.

Carried Unanimously

D.8 Formalizing Processes for Recognition Awards

Discussed in agenda items D.1, D.3, and D.7.

Formalizing processes was added to the Prince George Heritage Commission Work Plan and will be further researched and presented to the Commission by the “Heritage Buildings/Heritage Register” working group at the March 9, 2023 meeting.

D.9 Elementary School Architecture Research

Discussed in agenda item D.7.

Mr. Rutherford will bring materials forward.

D.10 2022 Heritage Commission Annual Report to Council

Discussion commenced and minor edits to clarify wording were brought forward.

Moved By Mr. Fredeen
Seconded By Mr. Rutherford

That the Prince George Heritage Commission APPROVES AS AMENDED the 2022 Heritage Commission Annual Report to Council.

Carried Unanimously

E. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

E.1 Next Committee Meeting: March 9, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

F. ADJOURNMENT

THE PRINCE GEORGE HERITAGE COMMISSION MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:25 P.M.

Mr. Ethan Fredeen, Chair

**Ms. Kali Holahan
Planner/Staff Liaison**

**Ms. Catharine Sikobe
Legislative Services Assistant**

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