

**THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF WEST VANCOUVER
HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
ELECTRONIC MEETING VIA COUNCIL CHAMBER, MUNICIPAL HALL
THURSDAY JULY 21, 2020**

Committee Members: P. Grossman; L. Anderson; P. Hundal;, A. Van Hoek, J. Mawson; M. Geller; and L. McKenna. Absent: B. Clark; D. Parr

Council Liaison: N. Gambioli (absent)

Staff: M. McGuire, Staff Liaison; C. Mayne, Committee Clerk.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:26 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the July 21, 2020 Heritage Advisory Committee meeting agenda be approved.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MEETING MINUTES

March 10, 2020 meeting minutes be amended by:

Item 6, Bullet 2 "Preventing Heritage Demotions" should read *demolitions*

June 25, 2020 meeting minutes be amended by:

Item 3, halfway down page 3 "...the results are not really presentative..." should be *representative*.

CARRIED

4. REALTOR TRENT RODNEY – HERITAGE WITH REALTORS

Trent Rodney, Realtor with West Coast Modern provided the group with a presentation.

Committee Questions:

The committee directed questions to the presenter, with staff and Mr. Rodney's responses in *italics*.

Was not aware that the Arthur Murdy (Beaton) House was demolished. Had seen it on the tour last year of West Coast Modern homes. In order to save these homes we need to figure out how to position them before they are sold. Appreciate the presentation and the work you do. Realtors can play a big role. We need to figure out

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how to approach the real estate board, perhaps a special workshop for realtors on what the heritage register means and potential incentives?

The people that you have on your list, where do they generally live?

They live all over the map, I would say 95% are living in Vancouver or grew up in Vancouver.

What year did the Arthur Murdy house get demolished?

2018. Someone bought it to design a new house.

Why didn't the house come to the committee for review or information? *Staff will look into.*

One of the priorities the Committee has identified is to look beyond the heritage register list of 182 resources. The Committee is seeking input to identify significant houses out there that have not made it on to the heritage register. Would like to work with your company to identify unknown heritage resources.

The houses that we have in our database are privately owned. For some of the owners who have houses on the register we received enquiries citing concerns about the implications of being on the register. Generally, home owners would rather have flexibility and not have their house listed on the register.

5. KLEE WYCK

Christie Rosta, Manager of Events & Festival Manager, Parks, Culture & Community Services provided an update on the work of the Arts Facility Advisory Klee Wyck Subcommittee to develop a short and long-term plan for the Klee Wyck Site.

The Site was deeded to the District for purposes of a park, nursery garden, playground, or other purposes of public recreation. The short-term plan remediates the Site for enhanced park use and District nursery services. The addition of a meandering trail throughout the Site encourages the public to explore the park's rhododendron gardens and the unique vegetation that spans the 6.2 acres. The Site will be maintained as a park and included in the annual park maintenance plan. As part of the short-term plan, staff will consult with the local area to determine if there is a need and interest for community gardens.

Committee Questions:

The committee directed questions to the presenter, with staff responses in *italics*.

Some Committee members were approached by a member of the family with concerns about the plan to demolish the existing house. The house has significant heritage value. A request was made to tour the site and house.

The existing house has a significant amount of black mold present. Staff would need to check if it was safe to enter the house.

ACTION ITEM: Staff to organize a site tour and determine the potential to enter and view the house.

A member thanked staff for the presentation. With the mandate of the Heritage Advisory Committee we are not in a position to comment on arts and culture strategy in needs to the district. Concern raised that the proposal is similar to Navy Jack in terms of the potential loss of another District owned heritage asset. It is incredibly disappointing the lack of maintenance and overall demolition by neglect that has occurred over the nearly 50 years the municipality has owned this property. In terms of the site and buildings as community assets this is very disappointing. Municipal policy encourages private property owners to consider heritage retention and protection whereas the District's record of heritage protection is unacceptable.

Moving beyond that, it is important, even if we put aside the neglect of the existing house and property that the spirit or intent of the deed is considered in planning for the site. Committee members understand there is disappointment from family members regarding planning for the site. There should be appropriate and meaningful discussion with the family.

One of the family members Dr. Rosina Smith participated in all of the Klee Wyck subcommittee meetings.

Another member indicated that they agree with previous comments regarding the overall neglect of the site and consideration of the deed and discussion with family members. The plan for the site should honour the history including, for example, reference to the Fernside family in the 1930s. Interpretative signage should be considered to describe the history of the site. A site tour would be helpful. Is there a structural assessment of the building? What is the status of the proposed demolition? Has this already been decided by Council?

The report with the Arts Facility Committee is intended to go to Council on September 28, 2020 for decision on the proposed plan including demolition of the house. Interpretative signage for the site could include educational information about the history of the site as suggested.

Interesting to see the plan and consultation, going back over time, historical society or heritage preservation society, were not involved in any uses. There is significant parts of community that has not been heard, this needs to be heard. Klee Wyck is significant; people are aghast and can't believe it has been considered. If the house is not possible to be retained, need to have a discussion and need to honor wishes of the family. I see a very busy plan, don't see a good plan. Hope we have until September 28 to put together something that might fit the family wishes and wishes of the community.

Motion

THAT the Committee request that staff provide access to the site and to Klee Wyck house, subject to consideration and permission by the Fire Department, so that the Committee can assess relevant heritage features and provide recommendations to

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Council prior to Council consideration of the staff report regarding the plan for the Klee Wyck site.

CARRIED

6. HRA HERITAGE PROJECT / UPDATES

Navvy Jack House

On July 20, 2020 Council postponed demolition of the Navvy Jack House to in order to allow a group of interested members of the public to consider and provide additional information by September 14, 2020 to Council for the District's consideration. The Council motion indicated that a staff member will be designated to answer questions or requests for information from the group.

Individual Committee members will work on the citizen group and will meet separately from the Committee meeting to discuss next steps.

7. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No members of the public were in attendance. A member of the public sent an email that staff will send to the group.

8. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday September 22, 2020

Move "6.2 Work program updates" to the next meetings agenda.

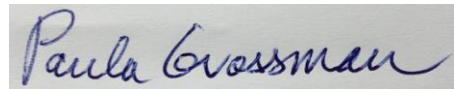
9. ADJOURNMENT

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the **July 21, 2020 Heritage Advisory** Committee Meeting (open session) be adjourned at 6:04.

CARRIED

Certified Correct:



Chair



Staff Liaison

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