



Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee

Date: Wednesday, December 21, 2016

Place: Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall

Present: Councillor Harold Steves, Chair
Councillor Ken Johnston
Councillor Carol Day
Councillor Bill McNulty
Councillor Linda McPhail

Also Present: Mayor Malcolm D. Brodie
Councillor Derek Dang
Councillor Alexa Loo

Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee held on November 29, 2016, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS

1. (1) Rhonda Wepler, 2016 Branscombe House artist-in-residence, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file, City Clerk's Office), provided a year in review presentation. Ms. Wepler spoke to the various programs she facilitated throughout the year and the positive community involvement as a result of the events.

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- (2) Bryan Tasaka, Manager, Major Events and Film, and Marie Fenwick, Manager, Parks Programs, summarized the upcoming events for the Richmond Canada 150 Program. Mr. Tasaka and Ms. Fenwick noted that many events will take place in 2017, with the Canada 150 Program officially commencing during the Children's Art Festival in February 2017. Staff confirmed that the City's website will provide information on all planned events.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

2. RICHMOND CANADA 150 COMMUNITY CELEBRATION GRANT ALLOCATIONS - SECOND INTAKE

(File Ref. No. 11-7400-20-CANA1) (REDMS No. 5249923 v. 2)

Bryan Tasaka, Manager, Major Events and Film, and Manisha Jassal, Program Coordinator, Richmond Canada 150, responded to queries from the Committee and noted that (i) outreach efforts for the grant applications were extensive, (ii) some groups which received partial funding have other sources of funding to assist with their events, (iii) when allocating funds the consideration of the legacy of the event was taken into consideration, and (iv) in addition to the larger events, the calendar of events will be expanded to include local community events.

It was moved and seconded

That the Richmond Canada 150 Community Celebration Grants be awarded for the recommended amounts for a total of \$75,300 as outlined in the staff report titled, "Richmond Canada 150 Community Celebration Grant Allocations - Second Intake," from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, dated December 6, 2016.

CARRIED

3. 2017 ENGAGING COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC ART PROJECTS

(File Ref. No. 11-7000-09-20-089) (REDMS No. 5222486 v. 3)

It was moved and seconded

That the concept proposals for the "2017 Engaging Community and Public Art Projects" as presented in the staff report, dated November 24, 2016, from the Director, Arts, Culture & Heritage Services, be endorsed.

CARRIED

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4. **MINORU PARK VISION PLAN PHASE ONE: FACILITIES PLANNING**

(File Ref. No. 01-0005-01) (REDMS No. 5226098 v. 9)

The Committee discussed the usage options for the existing Minoru Complex and considered the future possibilities for the usage of the land in the area. Two handouts were circulated, (attached to and forming part of these minutes as Schedule 1 and Schedule 2). Committee members spoke to the need to properly store and display the City's artefacts and enquired about the feasibility of repurposing old buildings for "open storage" of artefacts.

In reply to questions, Cathryn Volkering Carlile, General Manager, Community Services, noted that the examination of the City's artefacts is underway and a report is forthcoming.

In response to further questions on the Minoru Complex, Jamie Esko, Manager, Parks Planning, Design and Construction, confirmed that the newer Minoru Aquatic Centre would occupy more park space than the existing Aquatic Centre resulting in a loss to the overall park space that could be addressed by reverting the existing Aquatic Centre back to open park space.

Barry Konkin, Program Coordinator, Development, in reply to questions regarding the zoning restrictions on the use of park land, noted that the existing Minoru Aquatic Facility could be used as artefact storage and/or an open storage museum.

As a result of the discussion, the following referral motion was introduced:

It was moved and seconded

That the following recommendation (Part 1) stating:

That upon completion and opening of the new Minoru Complex (Minoru Aquatic Centre/Older Adult Centre) at the end of 2017, the existing Minoru Aquatic Centre located at 7560 Minoru Gate in Minoru Park be decommissioned, demolished, reverted back to open park space and that the project be submitted for consideration in the 2018 capital budget as described in the staff report titled "Minoru Park Vision Plan Phase One: Facilities Planning," dated December 1, 2016, from the Senior Manager, Parks;

be referred back to staff to analyze the viability of repurposing the existing Minoru Aquatic Center for other uses.

CARRIED

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It was moved and seconded

That staff prepare options for the future use of the Minoru Place Activity Centre located at 7660 Minoru Gate, and report back in 2017 as described in the staff report titled "Minoru Park Vision Plan Phase One: Facilities Planning," dated December 1, 2016, from the Senior Manager, Parks.

CARRIED

As a result of the discussion, the following referral motion was introduced:

It was moved and seconded

That staff research options for an open purpose storage museum at an existing location in Richmond in place of building a museum at this time.

CARRIED

5. COMMITTEE STANDING ITEM

(i) Garden City Lands

Mike Redpath, Senior Manager, Parks, and Jamie Esko, Manager, Parks Planning, Design and Construction, updated the Committee on the conditions of the soil in the area. In response to questions, Ms. Esko noted that the mixing of the soil will occur during the winter and that the results will be available in the following months.

In response to questions on planning of the site, Mr. Redpath discussed the short term and long term plans and noted that the trail work is a priority to be completed in time for the Harvest Festival.

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting adjourn (5:09 p.m.).

CARRIED

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Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Wednesday, December 21, 2016.

Councillor Harold Steves
Chair

Shaun Divecha
Legislative Services Coordinator

August 22, 1991

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(91-053)

STAFF REPORT

Schedule 1 to the Minutes of the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee meeting of Richmond City Council held on Wednesday, December 21, 2016.

ORIGIN

Recently there have been two issues regarding museum collections that have highlighted the need to address the museum space issue. In the first case, we had to turn down the donation of a desirable artifact. In the second case, we had to transfer an artifact to another museum. Both decisions resulted because of inadequate space.

Another aspect of the museum space issue should also be considered. The Richmond Museum has initiated the first phase of decentralization with the successful "Museum on the Move" (M.O.M.) exhibits. In order for this project to continue and expand, the requirements for operational space needs to be addressed.

On July 17, 1990, Council passed a Museum Services Policy "In Camera". Recommendation of the Policy states:

- "1. That, the focus of the museum services for the Municipality be the development of an outreach program that broadens the public interest base for museum activities, and which provides greater exposure of the collection of artifacts through a decentralized approach to museum exhibitions."

Later, Parks & Recreation Commission identified the following goal regarding museum decentralization:

- "1.11 Establish a program and policy considerations for the decentralization of museum services including: displays in municipal facilities across Richmond; securing of adequate assembly and disbursement space for artifacts; development of loans programs to other museum groups..."

ANALYSIS-

In keeping with these directives, the following is an update on the five main functions undertaken by the Richmond Museum:

1. Administration - there is currently one permanent staff position (Curator) and one regular part-time position (30 hrs/week programmer). The remaining positions are dependent on grant monies.
2. Exhibition - as a result of the provincial grants received, the Museum started a travelling exhibit program in January 1991 called Museum on the Move (M.O.M.). We are currently travelling light exhibits throughout the community in a number of different venues. This program has been very well received. We also continue to change exhibits in-house regularly and continue to take on cooperative exhibits with members of the community.

3. Programming - In the fall of this year, we are planning to develop programs to compliment our M.O.M. exhibits. We are continually increasing our programming in-house, especially joint ventures in the Library/Cultural Centre. In addition, we continue to do cooperative programs with other groups in the community.
4. Community Heritage Resource - The Richmond Museum is the only operation in the City to employ curatorally trained staff. As a result, we provide technical and advisory assistance to individuals and/or groups. We also assist in training staff for other heritage groups.
5. Collections Management - all functions of the Museum are dependent on it's collection. We are acquiring very little in Richmond due to lack of storage space. We continue to document the existing collection but cataloguing is very time consuming and is complicated by the lack of work space. The safe preservation and handling of the collection is also hampered by the space problem.

Administration, exhibitions and programming take place in the Library/Cultural Centre and throughout the community. This leaves the issue of space needed for collections management, community heritage resource services and exhibit preparation.

The collection of over 9,000 artifacts is currently stored in five locations (excluding artifacts on display and/or loan) at a total cost of \$29,000/yr.. They are as follows:

1. Warehouse at #101 - 7080 River Road - 3,000 sq. ft.
2. Locker at 4511 Shell Road - 210 sq. ft.
3. Salmon's Storage (climate-controlled for the most fragile items) - 50 sq. ft.
4. Boyce Towing - 200 sq. ft.
5. Richmond Museum - 50 sq. ft.

To achieve an effective program of decentralized museum services, staff recommend consolidation of the collection to one location. Space requirements for these services are based on existing operational needs, the United Cultural Centre Program Document, other community museums and National Museum Standards. They are as follows:

	<u>Total Sq. Ft.</u>
Public Space	500
- 2 offices - 200 sq. ft.	
- Community Resource Room - 300 sq. ft.	
Collections Management	300
- Accessioning (receiving) Area 100 sq. ft.	
- Preventative Conservation Area 100 sq. ft.	
- Cataloguing Workstation 50 sq. ft.	
- Artifact Photography Alcove 50 sq. ft.	
Storage	4000
- Exhibit supplies/props 100 sq. ft.	
- Conservation/storage supplies 100 sq. ft.	
- Exhibit cases/crates 300 sq. ft.	
- Artifact storage 3500 sq. ft.	
Exhibit Preparation Work Rooms	500
- "Dirty" Work Room 200 sq. ft.	
- "Clean" Area 100 sq. ft.	
- Layout/Design Area 200 sq. ft.	
Loading Bay	200
Lunch/Staff Room	<u>200</u>
	5700 sq. ft.

OPTIONS

1. Existing Historic House (Branscombe, McKinney or London Farm). Each of these houses would provide adequate workspace but are not practical for artifact storage.
2. Britannia Shipyard - Warehouse #9 is approximately 30,000 sq. ft., but its fate is uncertain at this time. If the building remains, the Britannia Steering Committee wish to use it as part of the existing site.
3. Building Warehouse Space - a desirable option to achieve goals, but there are no plans for this type of capital construction.
Cost: \$ 50.00/sq. ft. to build
4. Leasing Warehouse Space -
Cost: \$ 7.00/sq. ft. for unimproved warehouse space. In order to adapt the space to meet minimal standards an approximate cost would be \$50,000

FINANCIAL IMPACT

If the preferred option #4 is chosen, the cost of unimproved warehouse space would be approximately \$49,000 which is \$20,000 more than current costs, plus renovation costs of \$50,000 which would have to be included as an additional item.

Funding Concurrence:



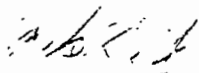
Treasury Department

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The community has responded favourably to the decentralized museum approach. The Richmond Museum Advisory Committee has met twice and has not yet dealt with the issue of storage space.

CONCLUSION

Both the City Council Museum Policy and the Parks and Recreation Commission term goals identify the decentralized museum approach with its necessary space requirements. The success of Museum on the Move and the two recent acquisition issues have highlighted the immediacy of this need.



Mike Kirk, Manager
Central Services

MK/jas

These New York Museums Let Visitors Go behind the Scenes to Explore Their Brimming Storage Facilities

Though space constraints may not come to mind when walking through the Met's multi-block span or the Brooklyn Museum's patchwork of galleries, most museums share a fundamental problem: Their collections are far too big for their buildings to accommodate. Their galleries can often display only a small percentage of the objects they hold. As Kevin Stayton, Chief Curator at the Brooklyn Museum, puts it, "The museum is always looking everywhere for storage. We have so much material and so little space."

In some museums, this problem has generated a different kind of viewing experience—in spaces created to serve the dual purposes of storage and display. Called study galleries or visible storage centers, these repositories are crowded with a wealth of objects that would otherwise remain largely out of sight, making them feel like treasure chests or cabinets of curiosities. New York City is home to three museums with these offerings—the Met, the Brooklyn Museum, and the New-York Historical Society—allowing for less directed viewing experiences and

The center's mission is visitor-centric. It's structured to encourage learning and exploration through periodic mini-exhibitions, supplemental resources that decode some of the ways the museum collects and catalogs, and, especially, through its wonderful crush of objects. "By massing things together, you learn things just from the sheer quantity, which you don't learn when you look at one or two of the very best examples," as in traditionally curated exhibitions, says Stayton. This is illustrated by one of his favorite sections, a floor-to-ceiling case holding Spanish Colonial objects. "You look at the silver, these religious objects, and it really gives you a sense of how different colonial Mexico and Peru were from North America," he explains. "It shows you the pervasive influence of the Catholic Church, the great wealth of that area, and the strong influence from the indigenous communities, which is much less apparent in colonial Boston and New York."

New-York Historical Society is in the process of making their storage facilities a destination. It is currently closed and undergoing a complete transformation, slated to re-open in 2017. While some of its densely filled visible storage cases will be retained, the reimaged center will feature what Hofer describes as "thematic and narrative-driven installations," resembling curated exhibitions. Among these will be the Tiffany Gallery, which will capitalize on the institution's collection of lamps by renowned designer Louis Comfort Tiffany—many of which, recent historical research has uncovered, were actually produced by designer Clara Driscoll and other women who worked in his studio. "We have an extremely talented architect working on this project," says Hofer. "The Tiffany Gallery will be 3,000 square feet and will feature 100 lamps, all lit. It will be a very memorable space."

But aside from their delightful abundance and the logistical issues they can help to ease, visible-storage spaces demonstrate an important and relatively newer ethos, which Stayton sums up. "Museum collections are publicly owned; they're part of our heritage. They need to be seen. And the more you can get out, the better."

ARTSY EDITORIAL
BY KAREN KEDMEY
FEB 12TH, 2016 8:26 PM

Schedule 2 to the Minutes of the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee meeting of Richmond City Council held on Wednesday, December 21, 2016.

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