

Re: LETTER FROM MR. STAN FISHER WHICH APPEARED ON THE AGENDA FOR
THE 1980 AUGUST 05 MEETING OF COUNCIL (Item 4m)
MUNICIPAL HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

On August 05, Council received a letter from Mr. Stan Fisher regarding the Century Park Museum Association's desire to have a Heritage Advisory Committee established in the Municipality. Following is a report from the Director of Planning on this matter.

The intent of this report is to initiate a process which, if continued, will result in the formal adoption by Council of a Heritage Advisory Committee. If we proceed, the next step would be for Council to receive another report containing the proposed bylaw and replies from the organizations that are mentioned in the Planner's second recommendation. This report would also include the names of staff who could provide technical support and administrative assistance to the Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT the recommendations of the Director of Planning be adopted; and
2. THAT a copy of this report be sent to Mr. Stan Fisher, 1st Vice-President, Century Park Museum Association, 1266 Sherlock Avenue, Burnaby, B. C., V5A 2M6.

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER PLANNING DEPARTMENT
1980 AUGUST 05

FROM: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

SUBJECT: MUNICIPAL HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CORRESPONDENCE FROM CENTURY PARK MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1) THAT Council approve in principle the establishment of a Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee.
- 2) THAT Council direct the Municipal Clerk to correspond with the Century Park Museum Association, Burnaby Historical Society, Simon Fraser University History Department and the Architectural Institute of British Columbia requesting these organizations to give consideration to nominating people for the consideration of Council to be appointed members of the Committee.
- 3) THAT Council direct the Municipal Solicitor to prepare a by-law to establish a Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee upon receipt by Council of a list of nominees for the Committee.

REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Appearing on the last Council agenda was correspondence from Mr. Stan Fisher, First Vice-President, Century Park Museum Association, which requests Council to establish a Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee. Section 15 of the Heritage Conservation Act reads:

15. (1) A Council may, by by-law, establish a Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee to advise the Council on any matter arising under this Part.
- (2) The by-law establishing a Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee shall set out the:
 - a) number of members of the committee and the manner of their appointment; and
 - b) rules of practice and procedure regulating the business of the committee.
- (3) Where a Council establishes a Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee, the Council may budget for, and pay the expenses of the Committee.

Included with the Council members' agendas are booklets prepared by the Ministry of Provincial Secretary and Government Services entitled Methods and Means in Municipal Heritage Conservation. This booklet provides a discussion of the Heritage Conservation Act and includes as Appendix I a model by-law which may be used to establish a Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee.

2.0 GENERAL DISCUSSION

The preservation of buildings of historical or architectural merit is one facet of a broader conservation effort which includes the preservation of neighbourhoods and natural features such as views, vegetation, watercourses and topography.

Conservation of these elements provides people with a sense of security and continuity. "In examining anti-growth sentiments being expressed by many citizens today, it seems that the outcry is not so much against growth as it is for the preservation of some amenities which citizens enjoy and do not want to give up. A conservation policy involves determining what people treasure in different parts of the city By preserving the elements important to people, and by alleviating the fear that everything familiar is disappearing, a conservation policy can become a means of making some types of change more acceptable."*

In Burnaby, many conservation efforts are inherent in current policies and actions. For example, designation of the Burnaby Mountain conservation area, Burnaby Lake Regional Park, Deer Lake Plan, retention of agricultural land in the Big Bend Area, policy to retain watercourses in an open condition, policy to preserve good quality trees within development sites, Neighbourhood Improvement Programs, Municipal acquisition of the Riley, Loftus and Ceperley (Art Gallery) houses and the heritage designation of the Burnett House.

A heritage committee would compliment these existing policies and actions by developing an inventory of buildings and properties of historical and architectural interest within the Municipality. The committee would report to Council with the inventory and provide rationales for the selections. The decision whether or not to protect a property or structure by designation or other means such as facade

* Michael Y. Seelig, Time Present and Time Past (Department of Social Planning, City of Vancouver, 1973), p. 7

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
 1980 AUGUST 05
 PAGE THREE (3)

covenants or special zoning rests with Council. The matter of determining suitable compensation by loans, tax relief, purchase, grants, transfer of development rights or zoning (density) incentives also rests with Council. As these decisions have legal, financial and land use implications and involve judgements of anhistorical, architectural and structural nature, it is suggested that Council also seek the advice of staff prior to determining whether or not and how to protect any property or structure.

3.0 CONCLUSION

In order to compliment broader municipal conservation efforts, it would be desirable for Council to establish, by by-law, a Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee. In order to establish this committee, it is recommended that Council approve of its establishment in principle at this time.

The membership of such a committee should reflect a wide and balanced range of heritage interests. In order to gain this range, it is recommended that a variety of groups be requested to nominate interested people having historical or architectural knowledge for the consideration of Council to be appointed members of the Committee. It is suggested that the Century Park Museum Association, Burnaby Historical Society, Simon Fraser University History Department and Architectural Institute of British Columbia be contacted in this regard. A member of Council should also sit on the Committee to provide a direct link to Council and to the citizens of Burnaby by including one of their elected representatives. To maintain a manageable and effective group, the Committee should consist of six to eight voting members. A lesser number would not likely include the desirable range of expertise; a greater number would be unwieldy.

It would also be appropriate to provide staff support to the committee by making representatives of the Building and Planning Departments and the Curator of Heritage Village non-voting staff members of the committee.

Upon receipt of a list of nominees, the Solicitor should be directed to prepare a by-law similar to the model by-law in Methods and Means in Heritage Conservation and the by-law should be advanced to Council for consideration. Upon adoption of the by-law, Council would select committee members. The committee will then become operational and will provide advice to Council on heritage matters.


 A. L. Parr
 DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

CBR/rlp
 cc: Municipal Solicitor

Chief Building Inspector
 Municipal Treasurer
 Curator, Heritage Village

