

**CITY OF VICTORIA
HERITAGE ADVISORY PANEL
MEETING MINUTES
March 8, 2022**

Present: Avery Bonner
Deniz Unsal
Graham Walker
Helen Edwards
Imran Saeed
Jim Kerr
Pamela Madoff – Chair
Quinn MacTavish
Steve Barber

Regrets: Veronica Strong-Boag

Guests: Keith Barbon - 450 Swift Street
Will King - 1021 Catherine Street
Councillor Young
Ken Johnson - The Hallmark Heritage Society

Staff: Laura Saretsky, Heritage Planner
Justine Wendland, Heritage Secretary
Joaquin Karakas, Senior Urban Designer
Anna Kapusta, Urban Designer

The Chair called the meeting to order at noon.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Avery Bonner

Seconded by Helen Edwards

Carried Unanimously

2. Adoption of the Minutes of the February 8, 2022 Meeting

Moved by Quinn MacTavish

Seconded by Avery Bonner

Carried Unanimously

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

None

4. Announcements

- VicMap Update
- Jim provided a brief overview of the British Columbia Heritage Week launch of “The Victoria Heritage Observatory” project website.

5. Delegated Heritage Alteration Permit No.00193 for 450 Swift Street (Downtown)

Applicant Meeting Attendees: Keith Barbon

No formal minutes were recorded.

6. Delegated Heritage Alteration Permit No.00194 for 1021 Catherine Street (Victoria West)

Applicant Meeting Attendees: Will King

No formal minutes were recorded.

7. Government Street Refresh

Joaquin Karakas and Anna Kapusta provided a brief presentation.

Questions and Comments

The natural ending place appears to be at Fisgard Street, why has it not been included? The bike lane network installation and flow were factors in the decision-making process. The new bike network will connect with existing Pandora Avenue bike lane infrastructure. The Chinatown character of the streetscape goes to Pandora Street as well, will the pedestrian priority zone on Pandora Avenue be impacted by the cars and bike lanes? This intersection is still being looked at.

Will there be any linkage between the Government Street Refresh, the developing Arts District, and the UNESCO nomination? There are lots of resources and opportunity to weave the multiple narratives of the surrounding spaces together, and the impact and connection to the surrounding spaces are being considered. Will there be consultation with surrounding key stakeholders such as the Royal BC Museum and the refresh they are undertaking? Consultation is underway with key stakeholders in the Inner Harbour. The Royal BC Museum is aware of this project and the approaches towards reconciliation and cultural interpretation for the street.

Will the brick be retained in the extension of Government Street streetscape from Yates to View Street? Yes, to help support the similar character. Where will the red brick be used and what will the transition places look like? Will the results of public consult be shared with the panel? High quality materials and natural materials are being looked at for transition places in the streetscape. The continuous paving of red brick is visually pleasing but can be worn by vehicles, though the wear is similar to the wear seen on the current concrete further down the street. If the street will consist of brick in both the pedestrian and vehicle areas, it becomes more of a pedestrian-friendly space. The installation of wooden benches contribute to a more pedestrian-friendly space than metal benches. The Lekwungen Plaza can be driven through, why was this selected for this plaza instead of something more pedestrian-only? Specific access needs to be maintained for emergency vehicles, parades, and the retail function of the street. Extending the car-free zone and the impacts it and the plaza design have on the space are being considered at the current concept design level of the project. The results and refined concept can be brought back to HAPL at a future date.

Will the trees be replaced with a different species? Trees will be replaced as required. Hornbeam trees do not thrive in urban cities. There needs to be considerations for the heritage facades and trees in a very detailed streetscape, so consistency of the size and species is not lost in the space. With the trees that are currently there, the facades of the buildings are not visible. The buildings and trees need to be seen as the framework of the street through a geometric layout. No tree heaving of the brick is seen in their current planters.

The consideration of timelessness over trendy design needs to be considered. The area of Broad Street to Yates Street design has not held up well over time.

Cluster lights are a character defining feature of Government Street, and their rhythm could contribute to the quality of the street. The cluster lights were originally installed perpendicular to the street and should be returned to this orientation if possible. The clustering lights have been brought together in the drawings as a design element.

Another character-defining element is the exterior restaurant patios. Who will control the design of the exterior patio enclosures? Will there be a requirement for applicants to rebuild patios that were originally built very basically at the beginning of the pandemic with guidelines for material and design? Both the public realm furnishings and patios and sidewalk cafes are regulated through out the City's Sidewalk Café bylaws.

1:34 pm Graham Walker left the meeting.

1:45pm Quinn MacTavish left the meeting.

Motion to adjourn: Helen Edwards Seconded: Deniz Unsal Adjournment: Unanimous

Adjourned at 1:54pm