

1/2023

MINUTES OF THE ARTS & HERITAGE COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING ON
February 21, 2023, AT 5:30 PM.

PRESENT:

Tasha Tams
Councillor Tamara Miyanaga
Councillor Joanne Sorensen
Susie Thiessen

ABSENT: Mandy Simmons
Councillor Carly Firth

ALSO PRESENT:

Brian Martin – Recreation Manager
Derrin Thibault – CAO
Chris Eagan – Director of Planning & Community Services
Marty Planger – Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

T. Tams called the Regular Meeting of the Arts & Heritage Committee to order at 5:32 PM.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

RES. 1/2023 MOVED by Councillor J. Sorensen that the Arts & Heritage adopt the agenda, with the following amendments:

ADD DELEGATION, ITEM No. 6.1 STAR Theatre and MOVE to before 4.
BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

A) Regular meeting – November 15, 2022

RES. 2/2023 MOVED by Councillor T. Miyanaga that the Arts & Heritage Committee adopts the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Arts & Heritage Committee held on November 15, 2022, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION

A) STAR Theatre

Joel Mills, Executive Director of STAR on 54th, was at the meeting to update the Committee on the status of the STAR Theatre and their plans for opening and operations. The Theatre is planning for a phased opening approach with the basement gym opening in May, the gymnasium and boardrooms opening in June, and the final phase is the opening of the theatre (the old chapel portion). The reconstruction has met with some unforeseen roadblocks and extra safety costs, which has the Society looking at more Grants and fundraiser events to offset the additional costs.

With all this planning and work, Mr. Mills reported that he is also working on possible programming and has been in discussions with the Town of Taber Administration. He looks forward to working with the Town and appreciates the collaborations with the goal to help promote youth and arts programming in Taber.

The Arts and Heritage thanked Mr. Mills for his update and all the work the Society has already done.

RES. 3/2023 MOVED by Councillor T. Miyanaga that the Arts & Heritage Committee accepts the STAR Theatre update as information and look forward to additional information they will bring back in future meetings.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - None

ACTION ITEMS

A) Arts & Heritage Direction

B. Martin reported that with the 2023 Operating Budget deliberations, the decision was made to remove the ACE Coordinator position from the department and reviewed how each of the Town event will be planned going forward. Most events will be organized by a committee.

Some events will not be held this year by the town in an attempt to lesson staff commitment to the events and allow for an increased service level within the Parks and Recreation Department. The Department has seen

growing with several new parks and two campgrounds within the last few years without an increase in staffing levels.

This Committee will continue to act as an advisory component to Council. The Members discussed what this committee sees for the future and possibility of joining with the Recreation Board. There is an agreement that Art and Culture is important to highlight within the town and with organizations such as STAR Theatre opening this Committee will be even more utilized.

Grant writing support will still be offered, as an external provider has been hired to help the application process.

RES. 4/2023 MOVED by Susie Thiessen that the Arts & Heritage Committee accepts the Arts & Heritage Direction agenda item, as information

CARRIED

B) Arts & Heritage Committee Information Item

B. Martin reviewed the items in this agenda line by line with the committee.

The Downtown Revitalization – Banner Project was discussed and updated on the status. Fortis, has not approved the hanging of the banners.

C) Standing Item – Arts & Heritage Committee Requests

Mirroring Council’s agenda, this item gives the Committee an opportunity to bring forth anything they would like Administration to bring back at future meetings.

It was noted that the demand for the Food Bank has been at a high and therefore more “FREE” events are even more important now.

MEDIA INQUIRIES - None

CLOSED SESSION - None

CLOSE OF MEETING

RES. 5/2023 MOVED by Councillor J. Sorensen that the Regular Meeting of the Taber Arts and Heritage Committee is hereby closed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AT 5:32 PM



CHAIRMAN