

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIGHORN NO. 8

HERITAGE RESOURCES COMMITTEE VIRTUAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 8, 2021 AT THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE IN EXSHAW

PRESENT: DENNIS APEDAILE MEMBER (Chair)
ERIK BUTTERS MEMBER (Council)
PAUL CLARK MEMBER (Council)
PAT BEDRY MEMBER (Public)

STAFF: JARED KASSEL DIRECTOR OF PLANNING
LESLIE REA MEETING FACILITATOR
LANA HILL FACILITATOR
KATY BRAVO STEWART RECORDING SECRETARY

REGRETS: DWIGHT TANNAS MEMBER (Public)

GUESTS: Laura Pasacreta with Fireweed Consulting Group. Attendance varied throughout meeting.

A. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chair asked if there were any changes to the agenda. There were no proposed changes by members or administration.

MOTION 01.02.21 – MOVED BY BUTTERS THAT

the Heritage Resources Committee **APPROVE** the February 8, 2021 regular HRC meeting agenda as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 7, 2020 - The Chair asked if there were any additions or deletions to the meeting minutes. There were two corrections to Parts C.1 and D.1 as presented below:

- C.1 – Forth line down to add, “(sic)” for clarity, referring to the correction reflected in the next sentence, as presented.
- D.1 – Sixth line down to add the words, “that the”, so it reads as follows, “Laura Pasacreta has recommended that the completed portion of the project be presented to HRC at the next meeting.

There were no other changes by members or administration.

MOTION 02.02.21 - MOVED BY CLARK THAT

The Heritage Resources Committee **APPROVE** the Minutes of the December 7, 2020 Heritage Resources Committee meeting, as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. Update – History of Forestry in the MD of Bighorn – Laura Pasacreta (Fireweed Consulting Ltd.)

The Chair welcomed Laura Pasacreta with Fireweed Consulting Group to the virtual meeting. The consultant prepared a virtual presentation of the History of Forestry in the MD of Bighorn project. It took a few moments for the meeting facilitator and presenter to work out technical details. Comments below were captured during presentation that are pertinent to the final document:

Chair Apedaile commented that this document should follow a logical sequence of an Introductory piece first to give context, then go into Forestry, and ending with Fire Protection. Laura Pasacreta agreed and said that the final would be formatted this way. However, for today's review, she will be presenting Fire Protection and then Forestry.

Pasacreta mentioned that information presented today was based on archives, and therefore are currently stand-alone presentations. Due to Covid-19, most archives are closed, there has therefore been minimal access to archives, site visits, and in-person interviews. They have reached out to a few interviewees that are comfortable with Covid-19 protocols for interviews and are hoping to schedule these as soon as possible.

Fire Protection Presentation Comments (sequential)

Fire protection starts with Indigenous practices, Fireweed Consulting wanted to have this aspect well represented throughout the whole document. Member Clark commented that there was now a comprehensive document added to the HRC Archives that covered Indigenous use and practices of fire protection. Within the document, it speaks to Indigenous use of fire protection, which became banned through legislation. Member Clark thought that this important information should be noted in the final document. A copy of this document will be provided to Fireweed Consulting for review.

On the Fire Protection timeline, it shows that in late 1920's the Lesser Slave Lake program with their fire towers was the most successful in Alberta. Members would like information on why? The consultant said this would be edited to explain why. Members also discussed that even though the Dominion Fire legislation began in 1921, there is recollection of Aura Fire Station (log cabin) which was built around 1914 or '15. However, it was burnt down by the original owner of Bar C Ranch. Member Butters recalled stories from his grandfather regarding this. It was discussed if the log cabin at Aura was a CPR initiative or not, due to the distance it was located from the railway. Discussion on the land grants held by CPR confirmed that they were provided 25 miles on either side of right of way. If the Aura Station was within this 25-mile buffer that CPR might have built a fire protection station. Pasacreta said she would try to obtain original survey maps and see if this Fire Station was within the 25-mile buffer and would investigate it further.

The presentation showed a table summary report of the Directory of Forestry Department of the Interior showing, "Table III number of fires outside national forests: area burned, and fire loss by causes". Discussion on Coal mining required for fueling Locomotive Engines, and that the old railway cars used to cause fires. Now railway cars have roller bearings on the axles to avoid "hotbox" fires while rolling.

Members inquired if at any point in the document there are old photographs of any fire lookout station, or old equipment/initiatives that were used so with photographs of modern equipment it could be shown how fire protection has evolved over time. Pasacreta said that this concept can be incorporated into the final document.

Chair Apedaile inquired about the presented newspaper clipping obituary for Le Capelain, which mentioned a “577 Melborne Ave.”, he wanted to know if this was in Alberta? Pasacreta said she will investigate this.

There was discussion regarding the, “Fire Protection Map in the MD”; members recall that the at some point in the document it says that Mockingbird Hill fire station was outside the MD, it needs to be corrected to say it is within the MD. Pasacreta said they would review the document to ensure this is updated.

It was discussed that Barrier Lake may be in Kananaskis ID, but not sure. Members discussed and clarified that Rosebud River is not a creek and is identified correctly on the map as a river. Chair Apedaile suggested that as part of the introduction of these presentations, that this map showing all fire stations presented and have the lookouts within the MD (existing or past removed) singled out. Pasacreta said she will let the consulting team know to create a map reflecting this.

Member Bedry recalled there is one significant fire missing from timelines, cannot recall exact date but around 1930’s within the Sibbald Flats Area. Pasacreta said she will let the consulting team know to investigate for a fire in the Sibbald Flats area circ. 1930’s to add to the timeline.

Member Bedry recalled a story from her father regarding the pack horses bringing materials up to the Black Rock Lookout. One of the pack horses (carrying a large wooden door), had fallen off the trail. Unfortunately, the horse could not be retrieved, and they had to cut it loose from the other pack horses. Members agreed to incorporate this story into the presentation and Pasacreta would have team members contact Member Bedry. Members also mentioned Doug Richards would be another good contact regarding this story as well. Chair Apedaile stated that if a schematic map is ever retrieved on how horses were led up and down from the trailhead to Black Rock Lookout, it would be great to have so hikers could check out that trail. Pasacreta made note of these items as well.

Blue Hill Lookout Cabin: Correction to vehicular to “corked” from “calked”, then correct “corned beet”, to “corned beef”. Will have confirmed by Member Butters.

Members agreed that an arrow should be added to the photograph that shows Pigeon Mountain, where the Pigeon Lake Lookout is located. This way viewers know exactly where it was located. Pasacreta said the team will investigate to determine the correct location and add an arrow or perhaps use a different photo.

Members feel that references from “Hiking with Barry”, about Mockingbird lookout may not be entirely correct. At one point it mentions that it is “Near Nakiska (outside of MD)”. This is incorrect. Then says replaced by Black Rock Mountain look, but later on the document says it was replaced by Moose Mountain (?). Pasacreta said this will be investigated and updated accordingly.

Discussion on the Morley Aerodrome and if more information can be presented so viewers understand what it is (Pasacreta will also check spelling).

Last page reads, “collection” and should be corrected to “collecting”. Final page has a photograph of a painting (Pasacreta will add a reference to name and Artist).

There is a link at the end of the presentation. Chair Apedaile suggested it be made more obvious that this is a link to direct viewers to the interview portion of the project.

Logging Presentation comments (sequential)

On any photographs missing a reference, one will be added to the final document.

Members stated they had never heard of the “Bighorn Ranger Station” and wondered if it is located with the Bighorn District (north of Nordegg), Pasacreta will confirm. It was also mentioned that the Aura Ranger Station is located near the Cadet Camp in the MD of Bighorn.

Member Bedry mentioned a story about a group that Mountain Biked up to Blackrock. However, when they descended it did cause some damage to the hiking trail. This biking now continues each season.

It was suggested to remove the reference that logging was centred on Jamieson Road, which is not exactly accurate. Members discussed the various logging west of Jamieson Road on Crown land, with logs transported on the 1A to Spray Lakes Sawmill in Cochrane. Members stated that there is still active logging on private property and west of Jamieson Road. Also, within the Sibbald Flats area there is also logging activities that are active as well. Therefore, more detail on the timelines for Logging Industry can be added. It was found that around 1970’s that commercial logging primarily stopped on Jamieson Road, but Pasacreta will let the consulting team know and it will be updated in the document to reflect this.

The members requested clarification regarding the Logging Statistics shown in the “First Statistics for Forestry” table listing. Was this report in Canadian dollar amounts of timber products for 1912? Are these numbers Provincial or all of Canada? As they are quite significant if it reflects only Alberta, especially for 1912. Members thought it would be interesting to show current statistics, to provide contrast. It should be noted that Forestry is one of the top five industries in Alberta. Pasacreta will confirm the statistics and add to this information to the document.

Members inquired if it was correct that Eau Claire was headed up by Lord Beaverbrook. Chair Apedaile mentioned that the jargon for logging operations was derived from Quebec French and English mixed. Perhaps this could be mentioned in the presentation (French and English terms for logging operations).

End of presentations.

Discussions after presentations

It was mentioned by Pasacreta that both presentations will be more encompassing once the interview and site visits portion has been added. It was also much more difficult to find archival info for Logging within the MD, as this information is primarily based more on

personal accounts. Interviewing residents along Jamieson Road regarding logging will be a huge asset, once this completed it will enrich this presentation. Chair thanked Pasacreta for the amount of work already compiled by the consulting group. Members are excited for final products to be completed and are extremely pleased with results so far.

Next steps by Fireweed Consulting Group are starting interviews and conducting visits for photographs. Some residents want to show old logging sites and ruins. Pasacreta mentioned that some residents already mentioned you can date a logging site based on the stumps (two to three feet stumps in height were hand sawed, anything lesser is machine cut). Fireweed Consulting is hoping to start these portions of the project in late spring, early summer. Everything is based on what is currently within their limits and what can be included. She will keep Administration updated, as thing progress. Pasacreta requested that the finalizing dates remain open as Provincial regulations with Covid-19 may change.

It was also mentioned that if there are any other residents that Members feel should be added to the interview list, to let Fireweed Consulting know. They currently have enough to work with. All members will look at the circulation list and provide comments or additions by email. Everyone thanked Laura Pasacreta for this presentation and providing these updates to the members.

There was no further discussion.

2. HRC Budget for 2021

The Director of Planning, Jared Kassel, informed members that he would be signing off from the meeting at 11:00 a.m. However, it was quickly discussed that HRC has a \$6000 budget to work on items for this year. Will need to be decided by committee what they are wishing to proceed with for 2021. All members agreed they would like to proceed with another Heritage Calendar. It was mentioned by Pasacreta any photographs collected under the Forestry Research product can be used for a Calendar, as they are all photographs of places within the MD of Bighorn. These photographs would be shared with Administration to distribute to members for review and selection.

Jared Kassel signed-out of the meeting at 10:58 a.m.

Laura Pasacreta signed-out of the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Tracking Form

Items in red on tracking form are presented on the agenda and discussed below:

4.1 – Oral History Project (Budget for 2022): Will put on next meeting agenda to discuss. The members discussed that they should keep open this idea to conduct any future interviews. Due to FOIP, Members requested their listing and Fireweed’s list be added as “In-camera” items at the next meeting.

4.3 - Heritage Calendar Project for 2022: As mentioned above, the Photograph Inventory List (from Dr. Pratt) that HRC currently has and the photographs from the Forestry Research Project can be utilized for a 2022 Calendar. Members agreed to be strict that photographs must be originated from MD of Bighorn. Mr. Kassel mentioned previously he will prepare article for the next MD newsletter. The Heritage Calendar will be added to the next meeting agenda.

6.1 – Site Visits: It was discussed that most of the named locations are not even open due to Covid-19. We will revisit this list at next meeting to discuss and evaluate based on current restrictions due to COVID-19.

Member Clark discussed Conference Meeting via Zoom for a project called, “Painting the Red Barn” by Mountain View County. This project is intended to promote history, art, rural culture, and tourism. Member Clark thought this was a great initiative and that HRC should investigate this as a possible future project for the MD of Bighorn. It was requested that this be added to the next meeting agenda.

F. NEW BUSINESS

NONE

G. CORRESPONDENCE

1. CHAPS Cochrane – to feature E. Butters interview on their YouTube Channel

Members discussed the email from Mark Boothby with CHAPS Cochrane. Members are happy to hear that the MD’s Oral History Project is getting attention from other historical organizations.

H. EDUCATIONAL/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

NONE

I. IN CAMERA

NONE

J. NEXT MEETING DATE

There was a brief discussion of the possibility of adding any new members from Bow Corridor or Exshaw area. It was agreed this should be added to the next agenda for discussion.

All members agreed that the next virtual meeting date will be April 12, 2021 and commencing at 9:00 a.m.

K. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 03.02.21 – MOVED BY BUTTERS THAT

the Heritage Resources Committee adjourn the meeting at 11:06 a.m.

M. D. Apedaile

CHAIR

And H of

DESIGNATED OFFICER

SCHEDULES ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES	
-	No Schedules