

From: Carolanne Reynolds <chair@heritage.westvan.org> 2100-01
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 2:37 PM
To: MayorandCouncil
Cc: Carolanne Reynolds
Subject: Fwd: ♥ CA 2020 WVM: Ccl Jul 20 Agendas; Navy Jack House; Action!

Dear Mayor and Council,

Since Navy Jack is on the agenda this evening, am forwarding a copy of today's newsletter fyi (wch will also provide further info wrt my comments in the minutes of the July 6 mtg).

Plan to speak to the item tonight -- btw, the mayor praised staff for making three applications to get funding for the Ferry Bldg, so hope now she'll encourage applications for the Navy Jack House. Will mention opportunities just learned from Heritage BC.

Carolanne,

a West Van resident still dreaming optimistically.....

:-)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Carolanne Reynolds <EditorWVM@westvan.org>
Date: Mon, Jul 20, 2020 at 3:38 AM
Subject: ♥ CA 2020 WVM: Ccl Jul 20 Agendas; Navy Jack House; Action!
To: Carolanne Reynolds <editorwvm@westvan.org>

What a busy hectic week!

Two Public Hearings and at least one heritage asset in peril!

Alarm bells rang wrt to Ccl's in camera decision to demolish the Navy Jack House, at the top of the list of assets of heritage signif in WV. The Heritage Adv Cmte wrote a very good report and submitted it to Council but, mysteriously, it does not appear on the DWV website nor as part of the materials referenced in the agenda item. Hmmmm -- so must get their report out (see: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1paurhKT3srraexDNI_hjv-6vhYdNswis/view?usp=sharing).

The Navy Jack House was the Williamses' home for 50 years! Here is a 3-min video citing some of the significant aspects: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tBQv9Q60rfU>

More info fyi below the agendas, as well as my remarks at the July 6 ccl mtg since the minutes only have that I "commented" on the Navy Jack House. The photo is from the North Shore News.

First, however,

the agendas for Ccl Monday night (regular mtg's was revised on Friday) with Notes. Contact info for mbrs of Ccl at the end.

=== COUNCIL == Mon July 20 ==

3pm CLOSED mtg b/c:

- (a) personal info about an identifiable individual ... for a position ... in the municipality;
- (e) the acquisition, disposition, or expropriation of land or improvements, ... of the M; and
- (g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the M.

Purpose of meeting: committee membership, land and legal matters.

AGENDA: <https://westvancouver.ca/sites/default/files/20jul20-Notice-of-Meeting.pdf>

6pm REGULAR CCL MTG

Intro w/ info/warning: #3##

<https://westvancouver.ca/government/mayor-council/agendas-minutes>

- Pls watch the Council mg online: westvancouver.ca/council-videos.
- If you wish to present to Ccl, pls consider submitting your comments to mayorandcouncil@westvancouver.ca instead of attending in person.
- To learn how to participate by tel, pls visit westvancouver.ca/council-procedure.
- Proposed **Devt Permit for 4370 MDr**: Consideration of applicn to allow for renovation of the existing gas station including a new gas canopy, carport, convenience store, and site landscaping.
- Proposed **Devt Variance Permit for 4369 Erwin Dr**: Consideration of applicn to allow for a two-storey house with basement and a one-storey coach house.
- **North Shore E-Scooter Pilot Proposal**: Consideration. [6]
- **Cross-Jurisdictional Action on Homelessness**: Information report. [7]
- Proposed **2020 Annual Tax Sale Deferral Bylaw**: Consideration of adoption.
- Temp **Protection of the Bennett Residence at 2909 Mathers Ave**: Info report.
- **Navy Jack Nature Centre*** – Cmnty Consultation Results: Info report. [10]

NB: Revised on July 17, 2020 to add a report to Items 6 and 7.

FULL AGENDA: <https://westvancouver.ca/sites/default/files/20jul20-Agenda2.pdf>

* NOTES

+ **Navy Jack House**

Late, so will provide some info here and more before the mtg Monday night.

Briefly, at an in camera mtg Ccl voted to demolish the house -- probably one of the most significant heritage assets we have (built by Welsh immigrant John Thomas in 1874; oldest continuously inhabited house in the Lower mainland; married a Musqueam woman; John Lawson bought it 1905/7#, now Lawson Park, etc).

[Above are the links to the HAC report and the video.]

The HAC report is dated July 5 addressed to M&Ccl however didn't find it in Correspondence nor is included with the info for the NJ Item (10)

NB: The next HAC mtg is 4pm Tues July 21. Here's the AGENDA:

https://westvancouver.ca/sites/default/files/dwv/assets/be-involved/Committees-Groups/Committees/Heritage-Advisory/2020/DWV-4099104-v1-July_21_2020_HAC_Notice1.pdf

+ **July 6 Ccl Mtg Minutes re PQ&C re the Navy Jack House** (at end of mtg)

The minutes just say I commented on the NJH. For the record, here's what I said:

[7:28]

Mark Panneton, Legislative Services: am thrilled to report we hv our first ever 'telephone-in' speaker, Carolanne Reynolds, on line, ... just going to go on mute for a moment then she can address Ccl.

... go ahead, Ms R

CR: Good evening. Thank you for this opportunity.

First of all, welcome to our new CAO, Mr Bartlett.

My name is Carolanne Reynolds, editor of the West Van Matters newsletter and chair of Heritage West Van.

As you wd guess, as the first mbr of WV Ccl for heritage in 1988, it has remained an important issue for me, and not just as a Canadian after my travels.

...

In early 1990, the Director of Planning and I went to the Navy Jack House to confirm the agreement with the owner, Lloyd Williams, who alas, died just a couple of years ago, after living there for 50 years, and his daughter called me the other day.

This asset is perhaps almost the most valuable of all the heritage buildings we have. Its significance is greater than the Ferry Bldg, the Music Box, and the Silk Purse -- all worthy (don't get me wrong, they're great too), but the Navy Jack House, since it involves not just that it was built in 1874 with old-growth timber, is the longest inhabited home in BC, but also it was the home of a pioneer, a Welsh immigrant, John Thomas, "Navy Jack" he was called (he ran a ferry service for a while, and had something known as Navy Jack gravel, still used for construction), and his wife was a Musqueam, so in addition, has a connection to our local and first culture.

John Lawson bought the property in 1906, hence the name of the park.

Being told that Ccl had decided to demolish the house was obviously a shocking, devastating blow.

*It is my hope that the future of this historic place will be considered with due respect for its place in West Vancouver's heritage. Rest assured, there are many who wd be only too happy to assist in any way. **Let us work together so this significant vestige of our past is honoured, not lost.***

Can we count on you?

MP: ... still hv 30 more seconds; anything else you wanted to add?

CR: No, no, that's fine, but someone might hv some Qs.

MP: Mayor, any Qs?

Mayor: tyvm. No, this is on our Consent Agenda for July 20, so Ccl will be speaking to it then

CR: what is on the agenda for July 20?

Mayor: This matter will be on the agenda

CR: you mean the NJH?

Mayor: yes.

CR: oh great -- so we can recommend ppl get info to Ccl before then?

Mayor: yes

CR: that's great; will there be any group to be looking at it?

MP: you'll wait for the report

CR: oh, there'll be a report; that's great -- well, tyvm

Not the end of the story, let's hope it's the beginning of a new happy story

MP: thank you

Mayor: thank you for calling in.

Good night, everyone

Link to the ccl mtg video: <https://westvancouver.ca/government/mayor-council/council-videos>

COMMENT/UPDATE:

As you see, did get the impression it wd be open for discussion -- upset if it just meant information only and not to consider other options or to pursue other ideas.

Turns out -- and that's good news -- it's not on the Consent Agenda (those items are usually 'rubber stamped'), so there's a flicker of hope now that it's on the agenda (item 10). Perhaps they'll discuss it??? Bit worrisome is that it just has "rec'd for information" wch cd mean nothing can be done about it.

Many citizens are anxious about the future and not necessarily that it be a Nature House, but essential it be preserved.

Keep in mind that it was lived in till Lloyd died in 2017 -- then was in care of DWV. Does that mean no maintenance was done so that now restoration is needed?

Maybe a company wd like to estimate how much it wd cost and even do it as a donation or for the publicity and gratitude of saving such an important/significant WV heritage asset.

We can hope/dream, can't we?

:-)

★ The NSN has a photo and info:



The fate of Navy Jack House in West Vancouver up for debate Monday night. file photo Mike Wakefield, North Shore News

<https://www.nsnews.com/news/what-s-up-at-council-this-week-july-20-1.24172553>

★ ★ ACTION

Do please let Ccl know your views. The HAC recommends postponement so alternatives can be explored and considered. Of course, the WV Historical Society, the North Shore Heritage Preservation Society, Heritage West Van, and other groups support this.

PLS CONTACT:

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TO WRITE TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL

(so all get it, and it goes on the website under Correspondence as well as on the agenda):

mayorandcouncil@westvancouver.ca



Maybe even write to the WVM editor:

editorwvm@westvan.org

or the chair of Heritage West Van:

chair@heritage.westvan.org

or, call Carolanne:

604 922 4400

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