# CITY OF VICTORIA HERITAGE ADVISORY PANEL MEETING MINUTES July 9th, 2024

**Present**: Alissa Wrean

Imogen Goldie Jim Kerr (Chair) John Boehme Lorenda Calvert Valerie Lindholm

Veronica (Nikki) Strong-Boag

**Liberty Brears** 

Regrets:

Genevieve Hill Deniz Unsal

Guests: Heritage Designation, Permit No. 000210 for 1601 Douglas Street

Ada Huang (Development Coordinator Arpeg Group of Companies)

Drew Ratcliffe (President Arpeg Group of Companies)

**Staff:** Kristal Stevenot, Senior Heritage Planner

Rob Bateman, Senior Planner Miko Betanzo, Urban Design Laura Saretsky, Heritage Planner Kamryn Allen, Heritage Secretary Alicia Ferguson, Recording Secretary

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

# 1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved: Lorenda Calvert Seconded: Nikki Strong-Boag

**Motion:** That the July 9th, 2024, Heritage Advisory Panel Meeting Agenda be approved.

**Carried Unanimously** 

## 2. Adoption of the Minutes of the June 11th, 2024, Meeting

Moved: John Boehme Seconded: Lorenda Calvert

**Motion:** That the June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Heritage Advisory Panel Meeting Minutes be approved.

**Carried Unanimously** 

# 3. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

#### 4. Announcements

- Next month 603 Pandora major application, 12 story hotel proposal for old town near City Hall
- Please refresh your familiarity with the Old Town Design Guidelines which will be relevant to this application.

## 5. Heritage Designation Application Permit No. 00263 for 350 Douglas Street

Staff provided a brief introduction to the Panel with a presentation.

Ada Huang (Development Coordinator Arpeg Group of Companies), Drew Ratcliffe (President Arpeg Group of Companies)

### **Panel Question comments**

- Will the ground floor stay commercial?
  - Yes.
- What are the present and proposed uses of the upper 2 floors?
  - 1 commercial unit to be integrated above, the other floor will be residential. Currently, the use is hotel. Not set in stone if whether they'll keep it hotel or not.
- Will the light wells stay?
  - Yes, and we are hoping to better utilize those decks once the exterior walls get cleaned up.
- Seismic upgrade? Will this happen in the future?
  - Yes, there is lots of conversation amongst the team for seismic upgrade, cost is a hard part, and making the project work, question for us is if there is a spectrum there that would work.
- Are you aware of the tax incentive program?
  - Yes, they did this on the BC Collateral Loan building in Vancouver for a seismic upgrade, so they are very familiar with it.
- Seismic is being looked at through conversations with VCHT.
- Statement of Significance has been well done to include the value associated with the use of the building and the Sally's during the mid 20th century so it's great to see the Statement of Significance reflect that.
- Will this be updated on the Canadian Register of Historic Places as well?
  - Yes, we will submit an updated Statement of Significance to the BC Register of Historic Places who will send it off to the Canadian Register of Historic Places, not sure how long this process will take.
- Fantastic initiative, that corner block is a prominent spot in downtown Victoria, delighted to see it stay protected.
- Very important location, directly facing Centennial Square, like that it's been revised to include the Sally signage and interior elements.

Moved: Nikki Strong-Boag Seconded: Liberty Brears

**Motion:** That the Heritage Advisory Panel recommend that Council approve Heritage Designation Application No. 000210 for the property located at 1601 Douglas Street.

Carried Unanimously,

## 6. Other Business

- Citizen inquires are getting out of hand, what is the code of conduct for responding.
- Not aware of any policy, they should reach out to Council with their input. Can investigate further with correct City staff.
- Any email inquires should be sent to the chair of the board (Jim Kerr)

# 7. Adjournment

Moved: John Boehme Seconded: Valerie Lindholm

**Motion:** That the July 9th, 2024 Heritage Advisory Panel meeting be adjourned at 12:43

p.m.

**Carried Unanimously**