



REPORT

TO: Mayor Avis & Council

FROM: Jason Kabel, Community Services Division Manager

DATE: November 2, 2018

RE: Museum Advisory Committee Request – Hamilton Cutter Sleigh

Attached is a letter from the Museum Advisory Committee (MAC) regarding the Sleigh that was loaned to the Museum by Linda & Bob Hamilton a few years ago. Mrs. Hamilton was disappointed by the shape of the Sleigh that is currently being stored at the Public Works yard.

The MAC is seeking permission for the following:

- The Museum will purchase marine paint and Eric Fagerdahl will repair and repaint the sleigh.
- Summer storage: Arena staff will move sleigh fall and spring to the Public Works yard. Museum will buy new tarp yearly. Sleigh will be wrapped properly and stored up-side-down on a pallet. (Times will provide.)
- Winter display: Recommend that sleigh be displayed at Rainy Lake Square on the stage. Good photo-op, enjoyed by the most people, and out of the weather.
- Hamilton's will retain ownership under these conditions or make other arrangements.

Recommendation

The Community Services Executive Committee recommends to Mayor and Council to endorse the use of the Hamilton Cutter Sleigh at the Market Square for winter display with an agreement forthcoming that outlines ownership, maintenance responsibilities, and release of liability.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Kabel".

Jason Kabel

Cutter given by Hamiltons to museum several years ago. Roughly 100 years old.

Brief History

Sleigh came to museum in a roundabout way through a third party, so paperwork never signed, proper care never determined, and ownership in question. Museum understood they could use the sleigh – historical piece. Kielczewskis painted it (not marine paint); trimmed with leather.

Museum group did use it during winter months and stored it at Public Works during summer. Because sleigh not used last winter (uncertainty of ramp construction start), item remained under same tarp for roughly 2 years. Although wrapped well initially (sat on tarp and completely secured with tie-downs), tarp has since rotted away. Sleigh held some water and paint shows weather damage.

Hamiltons upset. Why is museum not caring for item adequately?

During Advisory Committee discussion, these concerns raised:

Should the museum accept any donation and accession it, they are then on the hook for care. However, as museum does not have storage for large items, we are not in favour of ownership.

When sleigh is displayed in courtyard, it is visible during early winter only. As few spaces to clear snow, sleigh is piled with snow and quickly buried. How valuable then to the museum or to the community?

Because we do recognize the value of the piece and appreciate the generosity of the Hamiltons... What we suggest is this:

Museum will purchase marine paint and Eric Fagerdahl will repair and repaint the sleigh.

Summer storage: Arena staff will move sleigh fall and spring. Museum will buy new tarp yearly. Sleigh will be wrapped properly and stored up-side-down on a pallet. (Times will provide.)

Winter display: Recommend that sleigh be displayed at Rainy Lake Square on the stage. Good photo-op, enjoyed by the most people, and out of the weather.

Hamiltons will retain ownership under these conditions or make other arrangements.