



## **PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**March 1, 2018 – 5:00 p.m.**  
**City Hall, Committee Room #2**

### **MINUTES**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillor Mary Trentadue	- Council Representative
Karen Campbell	- Urban Designer (arrived at 5:24 p.m.)
Eryne Donahue	- Artist of Recognized Standing in New Westminster
Bruce Hemstock	- Urban Designer
Erin Jeffrey	- Community Member (exited at 6:03 p.m.)
Kendra Johnston	- Community Member
Mariane Kazemir	- Community Member
Vesna Malkjovic	- Arts Professional Representative
Stephen O’Shea	- Arts Professional Representative

#### **MEMBERS REGRETS:**

Tatiana A. Bobko	-Artist of Recognized Standing in New Westminster
Neal Michael	- Community Member

#### **GUESTS:**

Lynne Werker	-Public Art Consultant
--------------	------------------------

#### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Biliana Velkova	- Arts Coordinator
Debbie Johnstone	- Committee Clerk

**Procedural Note:** Stephen O’Shea assumed the role of Acting Chair

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m.

### **1.0 HOUSEKEEPING**

#### **1.1 2018 Committee Orientation**

Debbie Johnstone, Committee Clerk, provided the Commission with a brief Committee Orientation. The following items were addressed:

- Role of Advisory Committee and Terms of Reference;
- Orientation Package Overview;

- Committee Attendance & Quorum;
- Meeting Conduct: Rules of Order, Motions, Discussion, Voting; and,
- City Policies & Freedom of Information.

## 1.2 Oath of Office

Debbie Johnstone, Committee Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to the Commission members.

## 1.3 Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT Stephen O'Shea be selected as the Chair for the 2018 Public Art Advisory Committee Term.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT Bruce Hemstock be selected as the Alternate Chair for the 2018 Public Art Advisory Committee Term.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

## **2.0 ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Public Art Advisory Committee agenda for the March 1, 2018 meeting be adopted.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

## **3.0 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

### **3.1 Adoption of the Meeting Minutes of November 9, 2017**

#### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the minutes of the November 9, 2017 Public Art Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

### **3.2 Adoption of the Special Meeting Minutes of January 18, 2018**

#### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the minutes of the January 18, 2018 Public Art Advisory Committee special meeting be adopted.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

### **4.0 PRESENTATIONS**

There were no items.

### **5.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **5.1 Community Mural Policy**

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, summarized the report dated March 1, 2018 regarding the Community Mural Policy. Ms. Velkova reported that Council had referred the Community Mural Policy back to the Committee for further consideration regarding the City's role in the implementation of murals on private building space, and the potential for this policy to deter artists and community members from coming forward with small community murals.

In response to questions from the Committee, Ms. Velkova provided the following information:

- The City of Vancouver's Mural Policy is addressed through their Anti-Graffiti program. Concerns regarding Culture Services and Engineering not being consulted (with respect to maintenance) have been expressed;
- The Community Mural Policy would not be a Bylaw, therefore it could not be enforced by a fine; and,
- Implementing a Mural Policy could provide clarity with regards to maintenance, potential safety issues, respectful images and guidelines for de-installation.

**Procedural Note:** Karen Campbell entered the meeting at 5:24 p.m.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee provided the following comments:

- The purpose of the policy was to prevent offensive or inappropriate images; however, the ability of a policy to deter these types of images was debated;
- The policy could be designed as a way to offer guidance for community members;

- Privately funded public art could still be encouraged to be presented to the Public Art Advisory Committee;
- It was clarified that developers often consider public art on private property as an ‘element’ for the project and therefore are not required to follow the public art process;
- The purpose for the policy should be to provide encouragement, input and guidance to the community;
- It was suggested that a release form could be created for murals on private property, which would provide a higher level of accountability. This could also release the City from any potential liability, and could encourage consultation with the Public Art Advisory Committee;
- The release could reinforce legal obligations for the owner to maintain the mural, which could allow for the City to handle a violation of this as they would a derelict property; and,
- A release form could be a more reasonable request, and is less onerous than an application process.

With respect to the implementation of this new process, the Committee suggested that Bylaw enforcers could work to monitor the implementation of new murals in the city, or it could be complaint driven. Should a mural be implemented without a release form being submitted, Bylaw could follow-up and encourage the community member to submit the form.

The Committee directed Ms. Velkova to follow-up with the Planning and Bylaw departments to determine if this type release form could be considered in place of a policy.

## **5.2 Birds on a Branch Lighting**

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, reported that the light fixtures have arrived from the supplier and would be installed in the next few weeks.

## **5.3 Queensborough Public Art Inspired Bus Shelter**

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, reported that the Queensborough public art inspired bus shelter has now been installed. Unveiling would take place on Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, with the artist, Mayor Cote, Councillor Trentadue and Stephen O’Shea, the Public Art Advisory Committee Chair, all speaking at the event.

## **6.0 NEW BUSINESS**

### **6.0 Strategies for Becoming an Effective Committee Member**

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, reported that advocating for public art and the public art program could be one avenue for Committee members to be effective in their role on the Committee.

Steven O'Shea, Arts Professional Representative, noted that creating and facilitating conversations regarding public art can be useful in explaining what the public art program is all about.

The Committee provided the following additional suggestions:

- Sharing social media posts from Cultural Services;
- Writing positive letters to the editor to raise awareness on new pieces of public art;
- Act as an advocate for public art;
- Participating or establishing a 'Jane's Walk' for public art in New Westminster; and,
- Buttons utilizing the Public Art Program logo, or distributing the logo in jpeg format to Committee members could raise awareness throughout the community.

### **6.1 Queens Park Washroom Public Art Integration**

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, reported the following information:

- Replacement costs for the Queen's Park washroom have been included in the capital budget;
- 1% of the overall cost (about \$12,000) would be allocated to a public art piece, which would be integrated into the design;
- A mosaic design inside the washroom area could be utilized as a feature wall for the piece; and,
- A public art call would be issued for the design of the project, with tiling incorporated into the construction of the project.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee provided the following comments:

- Incorporating or accenting the design of the mural on the outside of the building was suggested to increase public awareness of the piece;
- Glass could be incorporated as either part of the design, or a way to view the artwork for the exterior of the building;

- Enquiries were made regarding the possibility to view the mural from both sides of the building;
- Playing with light and reflection in the design for the building was suggested;
- Current iconography displayed on the outside of the building could create a public art opportunity; and,
- Creating a mural that engages the community while they are waiting in line for the washrooms would be a nice element for what is typically perceived as a clinical space.

With regards to the theme for the call, the Committee suggested that reflection, nature (forest), consideration of previous rainbow signage at Queen's Park, history of the site, capturing a playful quality and a sense of scale could all be considered for the mural design.

Ms. Velkova reported that construction for the project would begin in fall, 2018 with the goal for the washroom to be operational by summer, 2019.

Stephen O'Shea, Arts Professional Representative, volunteered to sit on the jury for this project.

**Procedural Note:** Erin Jeffrey exited the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

## **6.2 Boundary Road Drainage Pump Station Replacement**

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, provided the following information:

- The Boundary Road Drainage Pump Station would be undergoing a complete replacement, and would be incorporating a piece of public artwork into the project;
- The budget for the artist would be \$10,000, and would entail consulting work with the designer and architect;
- The goal would be to retain the artist early on in the project to ensure the piece is properly integrated into the design; and,
- A call would be issued in late spring for the artist.

With respect to themes, the Committee suggested transportation, fish, the river, ideas involving the element of surprise, playing with ideas of riparian, little things magnified, and the idea of a hidden gem be considered. The Committee further encouraged the engineer for the project to consider the close proximity to the park, and suggested that a connection be considered to allow children and families to interact with the pump station.

Mariane Kazemir, Community Member, volunteered to sit on the jury for this project.

### 6.3 Public Art Plan Final Draft

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, and Lynne Werker, Public Art Consultant, reported that the final draft for the Public Art Plan had been completed. Ms. Velkova and Ms. Werker noted that the Public Art Plan would be a working document that would be completed by the City overtime. It was further explained that once adopted, the document would coincide with the Arts Strategy.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee expressed their gratitude towards Ms. Werker for her continued assistance throughout the process.

The Committee agreed that the Public Art Plan is an interesting document that the public could easily read, understand and utilize to access public art.

With regard to themes and visions, it was suggested that the Committee hold an annual typology workshop to encourage continued interest and ideas for the plan.

#### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Public Art Advisory Committee recommends that the New Westminster Public Art Plan be forwarded to Council for their approval.*

**CARRIED.**

All Committee members present voted in favour of this motion.

### **7.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION**

There were no items.

### **8.0 NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in Committee Room #2, City Hall.

### **9.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**ON MOTION**, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Certified Correct,

ORIGINAL SIGNED

**Stephen O'Shea**  
Chair

ORIGINAL SIGNED

**Debbie Johnstone**  
Committee Clerk