



PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 20, 2018 - 5:00 p.m.
Committee Room 2, City Hall

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Stephen O'Shea	- Chair, Arts Professional Representative
Councillor Mary Trentadue	- Council Representative
Karen Campbell	- Urban Designer
Erin Jeffrey	- Community Member
Mariane Kazemir	- Community Member
Peter Leblanc	- Non-Profit Representative
Neal Michael	- Community Member

MEMBERS REGRETS:

Tatiana A. Bobko	- Artist of Recognized Standing in New Westminster
Eryne Donahue	- Artist of Recognized Standing in New Westminster
Bruce Hemstock	- Urban Designer
Kendra Johnston	- Community Member
Vesna Malkjovic	- Arts Professional Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Erika Mashig	- Manager, Horticulture Services and Parks and Open Space Planner
Carilyn Cook	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 5:13p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

1.1 MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Agenda for the Public Art Advisory Committee meeting scheduled September 27, 2018 be adopted with the following amendments:

- 1. New Business Item 5.1 – Committee Meeting Start Time to be addressed prior to Unfinished Business Items;*
 - 2. Unfinished Business Item 4.4 – Public Art Plan to be moved to Item 4.1;*
 - 3. Unfinished Business Item 4.3 – Community Mural Policy to be moved to Item 4.2;*
 - 4. Unfinished Business Item 4.2 – Public Art Program to be moved to Item 4.3;*
 - 5. Unfinished Business Item 4.1 – Public Art Workshop to be moved to Item 4.4;*
- and,*

6. *Addition of New Business Item 6.1 – Email Update on the Telephone Salesman Art Installation – to be Received for Information.*

CARRIED.

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

2.0 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Meeting Minutes of May 3, 2018

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the March 1, 2018 Public Art Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Under the Parkade – Public Art Opportunity – Erika Mashig

Erika Mashig, Manager, Horticulture Services and Parks and Open Space Planner, commenced with her slide presentation, providing visual examples of how the Fourth Street stairs, hillside, and flex space under the parkade could potentially become a welcoming and useful community space, sharing the following information:

- The temporary wooden stairs will be replaced by permanent stairs on the eastside of the property and include a rest spot for people to enjoy the view;
- The interesting and unique space under the parkade has a lot of potential for animation and public use as it provides some protection from the elements and is in close proximity to the pedestrian connection coming down the hillside;
- The City aspires to create a flex space, an area that is designated as a pedestrianized space, to facilitate both planned and spontaneous events and festivals, be utilized for sports (with courts painted on the ground, i.e. basketball), and facilitate moving indoor activities to the outside;
- A low amount of traffic will still travel though the area;
- The base of the slope provides opportunities to collect storm water in small planted pockets and potentially create a stacked boulder area for informal climbing, playing, and seating for people to watch performances, etc.;

Procedural note: Erin Jeffrey, Community Member, arrived at 5:19 p.m. and Stephen O’Shea, Chair, left the room for the balance of the presentation.

- There are a number of options for the ground painting, including games, art, etc.;
- The new lighting would be more ambient and decorative;

- Parks has approximately 25K to 30K for the project, which will go towards seating, decorative lighting, etc.; however, there is not enough funding to build the new stairs and flex space in time to fulfill the City's goal to have the space ready for the Night Market (to take place around Christmastime) or Innovation Week. It was noted that, this time, Innovation Week will focus on innovative public space that brings people together and look at city spaces that are underutilized and ways to bring more life to them. This project has been shortlisted to receive some Innovation Week funds to assist with the construction of the space; and,
- The ground space has the potential for a great public art installation that the Public Art Advisory Committee could be involved in with respect to the call for artists, understanding what the artist's fee would be, as well as the cost to supply and install the art.

Procedural note: Mr. O'Shea returned to the meeting and the following motion was passed in order for Mr. O'Shea to officially recuse himself from the discussion to avoid a conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Mary Trentadue, Council Representative, assumed the role of the Chair for this portion of the meeting.

CARRIED.

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

Mary Trentadue, Council Representative, was appointed as the Alternate Chair as the regular Alternate Chair, Bruce Hemstock, was not in attendance.

Procedural note: At this time, Mr. O'Shea recused himself from the meeting and Councillor Trentadue assumed the chair.

In response to questions from the Committee, Ms. Mashig provided the following comments:

- The construction period for the stairs, flex space, etc., is estimated to be 20 to 24 weeks with a possible start time in December;
- The concern with painting the ground during winter is valid and can be further addressed by those that would be completing the work;
- Ms. Mashig clarified that she was looking to see if the Committee was interested in participating in the art installation aspect of the project and, if so, what the group would consider contributing financially towards that aspect;
- February would be a more realistic target and the public art piece could be ready for Innovation Week; and,
- The City often puts out an invitation to apply to 3-5 artists, with each of them receiving an honorarium for their application.

Discussion ensued, with the Committee noting the following:

- This is a great idea and putting the call out to artists keeps the process transparent;
- The ambitious timeline, which includes a call for artists, could result in the wrong artist being selected if things are too rushed;
- Members are interested in pursuing the project but would like additional information with respect to the funding aspect as well as receiving background information as to what the Committee has funded in the past and how much;
- A decision over funding cannot be made if the Committee does not know how much money is available. It would be helpful to have the budget numbers on the meeting agendas;
- Members were most comfortable with sticking to the City's regular timeline for these kinds of projects;
- The budget and process are both important and require thoughtful consideration; and,
- More information with respect to the funding would be appreciated as it is an ambitious project with limited capital.

Ms. Mashig may attend the November 1, 2018 meeting of the PAAC to provide additional information and further discuss the project.

Councillor Trentadue advised that the City is in the processes of finding a Public Art Coordinator and they may be able to assist with this project.

Procedural note: Ms. Jeffrey and Ms. Mashig left at 5:44 p.m. Prior to leaving, Ms. Jeffrey shared that with respect to Committee start times, earlier (2:00 p.m.) or later (7:00 p.m.) would suit her schedule better.

Procedural note: Mr. O'Shea rejoined the meeting at 5:45 p.m. and re-assumed the Chair.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. O'Shea shared that this would be a good time to reflect on when Public Art was addressed by Council and for the Committee to discuss further, if needed.

4.1 Public Art Plan – May 7, 2018 Council Meeting

Procedural note: Councillor Trentadue left 6:02 p.m.

After viewing Council's feedback, the following comments were made:

- The Committee needs to be mindful of the fact that perhaps there should be more of a local context to the Plan, including heritage;

- Overall, Council was encouraging and liked the Public Art Program; and
- The Committee can review this with the new Arts Coordinator.

4.2 Community Mural Policy – February 5, 2018 Council Meeting

After viewing Council’s feedback, the following comments were made:

- The Policy, with respect to art on private property, needs more work;
- It was noted that in the Mount Pleasant area, they hold a mural festival that takes place mostly on private buildings and New Westminster could learn from their best practices;
- The City could investigate how Vancouver deals with this issue from a sign bylaw perspective; and,
- This may be more of a Development Services issue as opposed to an Arts Services issue.

4.3 Public Art Program – January 29, 2018 Council Meeting

After viewing Council’s feedback, the following comments were made:

- The Committee has done great work over the last couple of years with a number of things coming to fruition;
- Once the new Arts Coordinator is hired, the Committee can fine tune and complete more items;
- Completing the Arts Strategy now is timely with the new Arts Coordinator coming on board soon as it will provide guidance as far as what the Committee’s vision is; and,
- In some other municipalities, funds are allocated and the Public Arts Advisory Committee makes the final decision; however, in New Westminster things are not finalized until the Mayor and Council provide final approval.

4.4 Public Art Workshop – November 30, 2015 Council Meeting

If time permits, this will be addressed at the next meeting.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Committee Meeting Start Time – Group

Various members commented that a later start time for Committee meetings would work better with their schedules.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.1 Telephone Salesman Art Installation Update – Received for Information

Mr. O’Shea reminded members of the emailed update on the removal of the Telephone Salesman art installation adding that updates will be provided as appropriate.

7.0 NEXT MEETING

Thursday, November 1, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. – Committee Room 2, City Hall

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Certified Correct,

Original Signed

Stephen O’Shea
Chair

Original Signed

Carilyn Cook
Committee Clerk