



**PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(PAAC)**

July 8, 2021

Meeting held electronically under Ministerial Order No. M192/2020

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Nazli Azimikor	- Chair/Urban Designer
Oliver McTavish-Wisden	- Alternate Chair/Community Member
Councillor Mary Trentadue	- Council Representative
Kathy Curry	- Arts Professional Representative
Eryne Donahue	- Artist of Recognized Standing in New Westminister
Peter Leblanc	- Arts Commission Representative
Janice Meehan	- Community Member
Stephen O'Shea	- Arts Professional Representative
Anjana Pradhananga	- Urban Designer
David Vivian	- Arts Professional Representative

REGRETS:

Neal Michael	- Community Member
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STAFF PRESENT:

Todd Ayotte	- Manager, Community Arts and Theatre
Quyen Hoang	- Public and Community Art Coordinator
Nicole Ludwig	- Assistant City Clerk
Carilyn Cook	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT pursuant to Section 90 of the Community Charter, members of the public be excluded from the Closed Meeting of Committee immediately following the Regular Meeting of Committee on the basis that the subject matter of all agenda items to be considered related to matters listed under Sections 90(1) (k) and 90 (2) (b):

90 (1) (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the

council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public; and,

90 (2) (b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party.

CARRIED.

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

1.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1 MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Agenda for the Public Art Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for July 8, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

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 6, 2021

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the May 6, 2021 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

There were no items.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Sportsplex Public Art – Update

Quyen Hoang, Public and Community Art Coordinator, noted that the Sportsplex public art project is close to completion and that a press release has gone out officially announcing the art work titled, “Welcome to the Zoo” by artist Nathan Lee. She advised that the unveiling and a discussion of the art work, hosted by the Arts Council of New Westminster would be held virtually on Saturday, July 10, 2021.

4.2 New Westminster Aquatic and Community Centre (NWACC) Public Art – Update

Quyen Hoang, Public and Community Art Coordinator, shared that the New Westminster Aquatic and Community Centre will be called the təməsewtx^w Aquatic and Community Centre which means sea otter house. Ms. Hoang noted that the public art by selected artist James Harry is scheduled to be installed between the spring and summer of 2023.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Community-Initiated Public Art Intake Process

Quyen Hoang, Public and Community Art Coordinator, referred to the memo included in the agenda package and advised that the City does not have a standardized intake process for community-initiated public art projects and that having a process in place would be beneficial to both staff and the community. As such, Ms. Hoang requested input from the Committee to determine a way to review and approve community-initiated proposals as they arise.

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

- Review of project proposals could align with Policy guidelines and the Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) meeting schedule;
- This process would be helpful to others who want to do public art;
- Funding could be set aside to support these types of projects;
- The process will be scalable depending on complexity of the various projects; and,
- Resources such as templates, best practices, and guiding principles could be developed to assist in the planning and implementation of projects.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee provided the following comments:

- Expression of support for a rolling intake of proposals aligned with PAAC meetings;
- The right questions need to be asked in order to ensure a proper evaluation;
- Time-based or ephemeral art work should be a consideration;
- A guiding document for proposals could outline principles to ensure that it is community minded, especially if it is to be situated on civic property and supported and funded by the PAAC;

- Providing a list of criteria for art proposals will facilitate an efficient review of submissions by the Committee;
- Clarification of terms (e.g. public art, public realm, etc.) would be helpful;
- The guidelines could live on the Opportunities for Artists page on the city's website and include PAAC meeting dates with a 30 day deadline for submissions prior to each PAAC meeting; and,
- Proposals should be reviewed by staff prior to going to PAAC to confirm that they meet the criteria outlined in the process document.

5.2 Public Art Policy Review

Quyen Hoang, Public and Community Art Coordinator is working on revising and refining the Public Art Policy to make it more succinct. Ms. Hoang requested feedback from the Committee on a number of recommendations to update the Policy and received the following responses:

Recommendation: Remove administrative processes and create an Operations & Procedures Manual.

- Committee members expressed support for this approach.

Recommendation: Remove Density Bonusing, Voluntary Amenity Contributions, and Private Development.

Councillor Trentadue noted that language in the Policy is outdated as the City is currently seeking amenities from developers such as childcare, parks, or affordable housing and updating the Policy could reflect that change.

- Long term members of the Committee remembered developing the Policy and noted that the Committee has not worked with Planning Department staff to champion public art with developers;
- It may be beneficial to know how other municipalities approach this issue;
- There are pieces in the City's art collection as a result of developer contributions;
- Removal of these aspects of the Policy may result in missed opportunities for public art; therefore; this recommendation should be processed slowly; and,
- Work can be done with Development Services to determine what should be kept in the Policy that would accurately reflect the current situation.

In response to questions from the Committee, Ms. Hoang and Todd Ayotte, Manager, Community Arts and Theatre, provided the following comments:

- This stream of funding does not occur on a regular or reliable basis;

- This change will not detract from how the Public Art Fund is financed;
- Currently, the Policy is not aligned with legislation regarding developer contributions for public art;
- Other strategies can be utilized to explore public art opportunities, including working with the Planning Department, without the language being in the Policy; and,
- Language can be developed to ensure private contributions are encouraged in the Policy.

Recommendation: Update the use of funding to include programming, education and outreach.

- Committee members agreed that including programming, education, and outreach would encourage and facilitate community engagement and discussion around public art.

Recommendation: Update the percent for art funding strategy to allow for pooling funds.

- The rationale for this is agreed to in principle; and
- Two pump stations in Queensborough received public art, benefitting from the existing policy and may not in the future if this is changed.

Ms. Hoang advised that the amendment would allow for flexibility to not proceed with projects on sites solely because there is public art funding and use those funds in a more strategic way.

Recommendation: Diversify the artist selection processes.

- Flexibility with selection processes is beneficial and remain open to new artists through open calls;
- Changing the selection processes could allow for oral application submissions; and,
- Diversification of juries needs to occur as well.

Mr. Ayotte advised that the revised Policy would be brought to the Committee for endorsement before it goes to Council for final approval.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

There were no items.

7.0 NEXT MEETING

Thursday, September 9, 2021

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Certified Correct,

Original Signed

Nazli Azimikor
Chair

Original Signed

Carilyn Cook
Committee Clerk