



PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 5, 2016 – 5:00 p.m.

Committee Room #2

City Hall

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lynne Probyn	- Acting Chair, Community Member
Karen Campbell	- Vice-Chair, Urban Designer
Councillor Mary Trentadue	- Council Representative (exited at 6:07 p.m.)
Jacqueline Buchanan	- Community Member
Eryne Donahue	- Community Member
Bruce Hemstock	- Urban Designer
Mariane Kazemir	- Community Member
Neal Michael	- Community Member (arrived at 5:29 p.m.)
Stephen O'Shea	- Arts Professional Representative
Richard Carswell	- Community Member

MEMBERS REGRETS:

Eric Pattison	- Chair, Developer Recognized by Community
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GUESTS:

Bruce Walter	- Artist
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STAFF PRESENT:

Biliana Velkova	- Arts Coordinator
Debbie Johnstone	- Committee Clerk

Procedural Note: Lynne Probyn assumed the role of Acting Chair

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Item 3.1 – Olympic Torch Mosaic Presentation- Bruce Walter
- Item 5.1 – Public Art Advisory Committee Work Plan, Fall 2016

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the April 7, 2016 Minutes

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the April 7, 2016 Public Art Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Olympic Torch Mosaic Project

Bruce Walter, Artist, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding his past work in the Vancouver area, together with his two draft designs for the Olympic Torch Mosaic Project.

Following questions from the Committee, Mr. Walter explained that the edges for the designs would be rounded and depressed into the concrete to prevent cracking issues in the pavement. He further clarified that both of the possible designs would reflect the spirit and colour scheme utilized in the Olympics.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee agreed the mosaic reflecting the torch shape be chosen as the design for the project.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Olympic Torch Legacy

This item was discussed during section 3.1.

4.2 Public Art Advisory Representative on the Arts Strategy Task Force

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, reported the following information:

- The Arts Commission created an Arts Strategy Task Force to focus on the development of the Arts Strategy document for the City;
- A community launch for the Arts Strategy had been held at the Anvil Centre on April 28. The event was well received by those who had attended;

- The goal would be to launch the Strategy in Fall, 2017; and,
- Creating the Arts Strategy would require many different viewpoints from the arts community; therefore, including a Public Art Advisory Committee member on the Task Force had been suggested.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Jacqueline Buchanan be selected as the Public Art Advisory Committee Representative for the Arts Strategy Task Force.

CARRIED.

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

4.3 Wood Street Pump Station Public Art Call

Biliana Velkova, Art Coordinator, reported that a public call had been issued for the Wood Street Pump Station project, and a five person jury consisting of 2 Architects, 1 member of the Public Art Advisory Committee, an arts professional and a community member had selected Rebecca Bayer as the artist for the project.

Following questions from the Committee, Ms. Velkova provided the following information:

- Rebecca Bayer has a strong architectural background, and has experience working with projects similar to the Wood Street Pump Station;
- Jury members had appreciated the interactive approach Ms. Bayer took when considering possible themes for the piece;
- A large desire had been expressed by the artist to involve the community in the project;
- The artist's honorarium would be put towards the design of the piece; however, the remaining funding from the 1% public art allocation could be allocated towards educational talks and workshops with students or local artists;
- A viewing platform may be considered by the artist if it coincides with the architectural and artistic plan for the site; and,
- Due to the expedited timeline for the piece, the Committee would not be able to allocate additional funds for the project from the Public Art Reserve Fund (PARF).

Discussion ensued, and the Committee expressed their support for the selected artist. It was suggested that education programs for the pump station, such as a colouring contest, be considered as a way to attract additional attention to the project.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT this report be received for information.

CARRIED.

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

4.4 Public Art Advisory Committee Inventory

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, reported that she had been provided with suggestions from other municipalities regarding possible conservators and appraisers that could be considered for the Public Art Inventory project. Ms. Velkova further reported that the City of Richmond had provided a price estimate of ten to twenty thousand dollars if the City utilizes a conservator and/or an appraiser. A request for proposal (RFP) would be required for the City to take on this project.

Following questions from the Committee, Ms. Velkova provided the following information:

- A student could still be considered for cataloguing the public art in the City. A Government grant could be provided for this;
- If looking to hire a student the work would likely not commence until summer, 2017;
- The consultation fee provided by Richmond was reflective of their own budget; therefore, the amount for New Westminster could be less;
- If a student were selected to catalogue the public art pieces, a conservator could be hired following the completion of that work; and,
- The Public Art Reserve Fund (PARF) could allocate money towards hiring a conservator.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee provided the following suggestions:

- Currently there is a lot of information available online with regard to the public art collection in New Westminster;
- Totem poles in the City could benefit from a more current appraisal. The City of Burnaby is having a conservationist to assess their collection, and it was suggested that New Westminster could ask the conservator to also look into their collection; and,
- Waiting until summer, 2017 could provide additional time for the current projects in the City to be completed and included in the cataloguing.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT staff be directed to provide project notification to Douglas College for the hiring of a student to undertake the cataloguing of New Westminster's public art projects.

CARRIED.

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

4.5 Community Banners Public Art Projects

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, reported that the artist design for the community banners public art project had been provided to the production consultant, and that it was anticipated the banners would be on display late May/early June.

Ms. Velkova enquired if the Committee had any suggestions regarding an opening/unveiling event for the artist. Discussion ensued, and the Committee agreed that a picnic on the front lawn at City Hall could be a unique way to celebrate the banner project. It was further suggested that the artwork that was not selected be displayed in the windows at the Royal Centre mall.

Mr. Velkova reported that the banner project for kids is currently running at the Anvil Centre, and would finish early June.

4.6 Mosaic 150 Project

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, provided the following update with regard to the Mosaic 150 Project:

- The project is currently advertised in the Active Living Guide, and is scheduled to run on July 25th and 26th from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Arts Council Lodge;
- Brochures and flyers would promote the project at Canada Day events around New Westminster; and,
- Day programs and camps run by City staff would be included in the event.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Public Art Advisory Work Plan, fall 2016

Stephen O'Shea, Arts Professional Representative, reported that many of the projects for the Committee would be completed by fall, 2016. Mr. O'Shea expressed an interest in developing a work plan for the Committee for 2017.

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, reported that the Committee would need to have a report to Council no later than November, 2016, with regard to the public art work plan for 2017.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee provided the following suggestions:

- Community projects have been successful and could be implemented in the 2017 work plan;
- An interest was expressed in working with Capture Photography Festival on an temporary public art project;
- An art piece at Sixth and Sixth and the Front Street Mews could be considered;
- The downtown area currently has a large amount of public art, therefore other areas, such as Queensborough, the waterfront area, Moody Park, and the Braid development could be better choices;
- The Q2Q bridge could have an opportunity for a capital art project;
- Consulting with the Economic Development Advisory Committee for feedback on possible locations was suggested;
- The theme for the UN next year would be sustainable tourism, which could be considered as a possible theme; and,
- 2017 would be the 150th anniversary of Canada, which could form a potential art theme.

Ms. Velkova asked that Committee members continue to brainstorm regarding possible project locations, themes and artists and to provide their suggestions to the Committee at their September meeting.

6.0 REPORTS

There were no items.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

8.1 September 1, 2016 at 5 p.m. in Committee Room #2 or at the Call of the Chair

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

Certified Correct,

**LYNN PROBYN
ACTING CHAIR**

**DEBBIE JOHNSTONE
COMMITTEE CLERK**