



PUBLIC ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Thursday, June 6, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.
Committee Room No. 2
City Hall**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Laura Moodie, Chair	- Arts Professional
Ted Drabyk	- Arts Commission Representative
Councillor Bill Harper	- Council Representative (departed at 6:15 pm)
Peter Lojewski	- Community Member
Carolyn McLaughlin	- Artist of Recognized Standing
Lynne Probyn	- Community Member at Large
Gisela Woldenga	- Other Arts Professional (arrived at 5:20 pm)

MEMBERS REGRETS:

Gabriela Diaconu	- Artist of Recognized Standing
Jacqueline Dionne	- Arts Professional, Vice Chair
Patrick O'Shaughnessy	- Urban Designer
Eric Pattison	- Urban Designer
Paul Rodham	- Architect
Ingrid Tamboline	- Arts Professional

GUESTS:

Enzo Geurriero	- NW Community Development Society
Andrée St. Martin	- Arts Council of New Westminster

STAFF PRESENT:

Greg Magirescu	- Manager, Arts and Cultural Development
Terry Dunlop	- Recording Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 pm

1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Item 5.2 - Public Art Tour
- Item 5.3 - Voluntary Amenity Contribution
- Item 5.4 - Columbia Street Mural

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

This item was considered later in the meeting when quorum was obtained.

3.0 PRESENTATION

3.1 New Westminster Community Development Society

New Westminster Community Development Society (NWCDS) representative Enzo Geurriero provided insight into the society's work and possible partnering opportunities. The NWCDS has been a leader in Canada for community economic development. Funding was primarily federal, however, government priorities changed and that source was lost. Subsequently, the society decided to buy its own building downtown and that investment secured the future viability of the NWCDS.

Gisela Woldenga arrived at 5:20 pm (quorum achieved)

The organization has seeded scholarships and bursaries at Douglas College and jointly with the Lookout Society, also funded the downtown *Eyes on the Street* initiative. Additionally, the society partners with aboriginal organizations in New Westminster to address special needs and with the City and the Arts Council, has focused resources on Columbia Street enhancements. In an effort to recall the city's *Golden Mile* era, \$40,000 was provided by the NWCDS Trust for installation of mosaics and other art on the street. The downtown mosaic art tile project steering committee is also working with the Chinese Benevolent Association and the Trapp building developer to create two more mosaics, for a total of ten.

The NWCDS proposes to allocate additional funds in the amount of \$37,500, targeted mainly in the Downtown area. This might be for a possible signature project that would attract people off the SkyTrain and spend time in the downtown area. The society has already drafted a general call for artists to put forward submissions. With City staff assistance, the society hopes to partner with the Public Art Advisory Committee for potential matching funds to provide a major public art project that will continue enhancement of the Downtown area. The representatives concluded with advice that the NWCDS is completely open to ideas and in collaboration with the Public Art Advisory Committee, will consider providing funds for a viable and attractive major public art project.

In ensuing discussion, the following points were addressed:

- The public art project could be any kind of art; the NWCDS remains completely open, provided the work is placed in the downtown area, ideally on or near Columbia Street. The society has no firm timeline, rather it is exploring concepts and ideas at this time.
- Currently, the Public Art Advisory Committee is in the process of finalising its funding and setting policies, and hopes to begin focusing on projects in the very near future.
- City staff could assist the NWCDS in reviewing responses to the general call for artists' submissions. Typically, such calls are placed on websites such as the Alliance for Arts & Culture, Vancouver Public Art online, and the Arts Council website.
- The PAAC should finish work on guiding principles and then consider some ideas for projects. The guiding principles might also address issues such as giving priority/preference to local or BC artists.
- Consider establishing a timeline for possible recommendation(s) to City Council in the fall. Typically, major art projects take approximately 18 months to two years, the longest portion being in the first six to eight months responding to calls for artists, design reviews, etc.
- Possibly establish an inventory or database of artists and then set a budget.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Quorum was obtained during the foregoing presentation.

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of May 2, 2013

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the Public Arts Advisory Committee meeting held on May 2, 2013 minutes be adopted.

CARRIED.

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

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Public Art Reserve Fund Bylaw Update

Greg Magirescu, Manager, Arts & Cultural Development, reported orally on the status of the reserve fund. Bylaws have now been drafted and will be submitted for Council consideration and adoption. Two components are addressed by the bylaws: 1) the reserve fund is established; 2) wording relative to density bonusing is provided. All that now remains is for Council to complete the bylaw readings and finally adopt them.

4.2 Biennale Update

Greg Magirescu, Manager, Arts & Cultural Development, provided an oral update on the Biennale, noting previous direction to staff from Council to investigate all the implications of City involvement in the Biennale. Through Metro Vancouver, there has been dialogue with other potential participating municipalities. However, a possible negative factor identified relates to a requirement that municipalities sign a \$25,000 contract with the Biennale to establish a genuine interest. The Municipal Charter does not permit such contracts and one lower mainland municipality has already withdrawn from the initiative due to this requirement and other perceived uncertainties. No further action is expected until the fall when the committee will receive a further update, following more discussion with the Vancouver Biennale and other municipalities throughout Metro Vancouver.

4.3 Public Art Strategic Plan “Guiding Principles” Draft Report

The committee received the draft report proposed for consideration by Council on June 24, 2013. Mr. Magirescu reviewed key aspects of the Guiding Principles that were developed as an outcome of Council’s earlier adoption of the Public Art Policy. The 2013-2015 Guiding Principles were attached to the report as a first draft for further work by the committee.

Councillor Harper departed at 6:15 pm (quorum lost)

Specific details were discussed in the ensuing review of the Appendix document, including how bequests might be handled, management of existing art collections and others that might be donated in future, with very specific conditions. Ultimately, Council decides on the disposition of collections and other bequests, however, the need remains for strong guiding principles to assist in the decision-making process.

Procedural Note:

Due to the loss of quorum, remaining committee members were unable to make formal recommendation to Council at this time.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Public Art Sites – site subcommittee

Carolyn McLaughlin explained that due to the absence of a key member, the subcommittee was unable to complete its photo-survey task. The Chair proposed that members use the summer months to conduct their own surveys of potential sites for consideration at fall meeting(s). Staff advised of the availability of some stored photographs of sites and surfaces and he undertook to circulate information to committee members.

The Chair concluded with a suggestion for a call for citizens to bring forward their suggestions for location of public art sites, possibly through the Residents' Associations. Members present agreed that such input would be an ideal method for engaging the community. Staff undertook to follow up on the suggestion.

5.2 Public Art Tour Update

The tour of public art sites on the North Shore was changed to Thursday June 27, 2013 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm. A bus has been rented and dinner boxes will be provided to participants.

5.3 Voluntary Amenity Contribution

Due to the loss of quorum, Mr. Magirescu was unable to bring forward two proposed resolutions to Council on the disposition of unallocated monies in the reserve fund and donation of 10 percent of Voluntary Amenity Contributions for arts in the same way that density bonusing is allocated.

5.4 Columbia Street Mural

Members discussed a potential mural project involving a 270 ft long concrete wall (averaging in height between 10 and 12⁴ ft) along Columbia Street, close to the junction with Front Street. There were various ways in which the project could be completed, including a possible community project. The Public Art Advisory Committee would first need to explore ideas and input before making recommendation to Council.

6.0 CORRESPONDENCE

No items presented.

7.0 NEXT MEETING

Thursday, June 27, 2013 Bus Tour of North Vancouver public art sites at 5:00 p.m.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was concluded at 7:05 p.m.

Laura Moodie
Chair

Terry Dunlop
Recording Clerk