



PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 6, 2014 – 5:00 p.m.
Committee Room No. 2
City Hall

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Laura Moodie, Chair	- Arts Professional
Laura Cuthbert	- Community Member
Gabriela Diaconu	- Artist of Recognized Standing
Jacqueline Dionne	- Arts Professional, Vice Chair
Councillor Bill Harper	- Council Representative
Mariane Kazemir	- Community Member
Peter Lojewski	- Community Member
Carolyn McLaughlin	- Artist of Recognized Standing
Eric Pattison	- Urban Designer
Lynne Probyn	- Community Member at Large
Paul Rodham	- Architect

MEMBERS REGRETS:

Ted Drabyk	- Arts Commission Representative
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STAFF PRESENT:

Rob McCullough	- Manager, Cultural Services
Lauren Blake	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 4:55 p.m.

1.0 ANNUAL HOUSEKEEPING

1.1 Orientation

Lauren Blake, Committee Clerk, provided an orientation to the Committee. The following documents were reviewed and distributed to Committee members:

- Rules of Conduct: Advisory Committees and Bodies of Council
- Social Media Policy
- 2014 Schedule
- Permission Forms

Committee members were requested to review the Rules of Conduct and the Social Media Policy, if they have not already done so. Permission forms

indicating the manner in which Committee members are to be contacted were distributed and collected by the Committee Clerk.

1.2 Oaths

The Committee Clerk performed the oath of office that all Committee members are required to take. Committee members verbally recited the oath, and then signed their name to affirm that they took the oath.

1.3 Selection of Chair and Vice Chair for 2014

Councillor Harper requested that a Chair be selected, and proceeded to request nominations. Ms. Laura Moodie was nominated to continue to serve as Chair. Ms. Moodie agreed, and will stand as Chair.

Ms. Lynne Probyn and Ms. Jacqueline Dionne were nominated to serve as Vice-Chair. The Committee voted, and Ms. Probyn was elected to serve as Vice-Chair.

2.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

The agenda was amended by:

- Adding new item 5.3 – 2014 Public Art Update
- Adding new item 5.4 – Article of Interest – “Statue of sleepwalking man triggers controversy at Wellesley College.”
- Adding new item 5.5 –Public Art Work Plan and Initiatives
- Adding new item 5.6 – Schedule

3.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Adoption of Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2014

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the Public Arts Advisory Committee meeting held January 9, 2014 be adopted.

CARRIED.

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

4.0 PRESENTATION

4.0 North Vancouver Public Art and Mexico Beach Art – Peter Lojewski

Mr. Lojewski will present at the next meeting.

4.1 Public Art in Prague – Laura Moodie

Ms. Moodie provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding public art in Prague. Ms. Moodie reported that many installations of public art were created as a response to the communist period of Czechoslovakian history.

The Committee discussed the impact of communism on public art in Prague, and commented on European cities' ability to mix modern public art with historical pieces.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Public Art Site Location Map – Paul Rodham

Mr. Paul Rodham presented the Google Map Engine account that has been created for the use of the Public Art Advisory Committee, and reviewed how the program works. Mr. Rodham noted that in order to use the Google Map Engine account, Committee members will be required to have a Google or Gmail account.

The Committee expressed concern regarding the lack of the Google street view feature, as Google Map Engine does not allow for this device to be used.

Mr. Rob McCullough, Manager, Cultural Services, reported that existing public art installations are currently being populated on the New Westminster Cultural Map.

It was suggested that a generic username be created, such as publicartnewwestcity@gmail.com, to provide easier access to the mapping program.

Ms. Laura Cuthbert volunteered to create a generic account for the Committee, and advised that she will forward the account information to Mr. Rodham.

5.2 Agenda submissions and communication – Rob McCullough

Mr. McCullough noted that due to restrictions regarding the sharing of Committee members' personal information, the Committee Clerk will request agenda items from the Committee members.

5.3 Update on 2014 Public Art Projects

Mr. McCullough provided updates regarding the 2014 Public Art Projects that have been approved, in principle, by Council.

Jose Resénde Project – Vancouver Biennale

Mr. McCullough reported the following information regarding the Jose Resénde project:

- Due to structural concerns at the Timber Wharf, the artist is considering utilizing shipping containers rather than railcars, which may be structured into a “W” shape.
- The installation could be a legacy piece and remain in New Westminster for an extended period of time, due to the cost of assembly and transportation.
- Additional locations are also being considered.

Mr. McCullough requested that the Committee provide feedback regarding the artist’s consideration for using shipping containers rather than railcars.

Discussion ensued and the Committee provided the following comments:

- Containers in Queensborough often appear to look like public art due to the colours of the containers. It was suggested that if containers are used, they could be painted.
- Concern was expressed with respect to the level of impact that the containers could provide.
- It was suggested that flatbed rail cars could be used, or that the structure of the railcars could be stripped down to decrease the weight of the installation.
- It was noted that if the containers are shaped as a “W”, the installation could act as a sign for New Westminster.
- The history and effect of containers in New Westminster was discussed.
- Appreciation was expressed regarding the connection between the location of the Timber Wharf and the use of railcars, as the Timber Wharf is located adjacent to a railway.

In response to questions from the Committee, Mr. McCullough provided the following information:

- As the installation could be a legacy piece, maintenance costs must also be considered.
- The artist has been selected by Biennale, and the Committee will not be permitted to provide input regarding the artists and installations that are included as part of the Biennale package.
- It was noted that changing the material from railcars to containers will affect the cost of the project.
- The long term vision for the Timber Wharf and Pier Park has not yet been determined. The installation of this piece could affect future development at the Timber Wharf.

- The overall budget for the Jose Resénde installation has been estimated at \$55, 000. Mr. McCullough reported that it is unclear what portion of the budget will go towards structural repairs to the wharf.
- A contract with the Biennale will not be finalized until the Committee is ready to commit to the Biennale.

The Committee requested clarification regarding the budget for the Jose Resénde piece, specifically, if the budget includes structural repairs to the Timber Wharf. The Committee noted that if the wharf requires structural repairs for additional uses, perhaps other City departments should be contacted with respect to contributing to structural repairs.

The Committee further requested that the Biennale provide an image of the Jose Resénde project.

Third Public Art Project – Vancouver Biennale

Mr. McCullough provided an update regarding the third public art installation that is to be provided by the Biennale. The proposed installation is an iron wine carafe and/or tea pot. Vegetation will be able to grow along the piece, and the public will be able to sit inside the structure. Mr. McCullough reported that the piece has been exhibited in Europe, notably at Versailles. The proposed location for the piece is in Albert Crescent Park.

Discussion ensued and the Committee noted the following information:

- Albert Crescent Park has a long history, and was once lined with mansions. The Committee was enthusiastic to recapture the location's history and prestige.
- Installing an interactive work of public art at this location could motivate the public to utilize Albert Crescent Park.

Olympic Torch Legacy Project

Mr. McCullough provided an update regarding the Olympic Torch Legacy project. The proposed art piece included projecting videos of the torch tour, with an additional video of the various torch bearers expressing their feelings while carrying the torch. A display case containing an Olympic torch could also be provided. Mr. McCullough advised that an artist could be commissioned to design a decal for the display case. The proposed location for this project is the Queen's Park Arena.

Discussion ensued and the Committee noted the following information:

- Concerns were expressed regarding the use of vinyl for the decal design.

- It was suggested that a website could be created for the public to share their experience with the torch, as well as photos and memories of the Olympics.
- It was suggested that the display case could also integrate Olympic medals and other Olympic memorabilia.

5.4 Article of Interest – “Statue of sleepwalking man triggers controversy at Wellesley College” – Eric Pattison

Mr. Eric Pattison reviewed the article.

The Committee discussed the article and noted the following information:

- The article demonstrates the power of public art and social media.
- Appreciation was expressed for the art piece and its location.
- It was noted that public art can be fun and controversial.

5.5 Public Art Work Plan and Initiatives – Rob McCullough

Mr. McCullough reported that the part of the Public Art Advisory Committee’s mandate is to develop a public art master plan. Mr. McCullough reported that the master plan would include:

- Guiding principles with respect to public art;
- Outlining the process regarding the administration of public art;
- Creating a Terms of Reference for each public art selection; and
- The selection process regarding public art juries.

The Committee suggested that other cities’ Public Art Master Plan be reviewed before implementing a Public Art Master Plan for New Westminster.

5.6 Schedule – Rob McCullough

The Committee was provided the schedule for the 2014 term.

6.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 Surrey Public Art Presentation – Proposed dates Feb 17th or Feb 25th @ 5:00 p.m.

Mr. McCullough reported that Liane Davison, Manager, Visual and Community Art, City of Surrey, will provide a presentation regarding public art in Surrey, as well as provide information on the City of Surrey’s Public Art Master Plan. The Committee agreed to receive the presentation will be on February 25. The presentation will take place at the River Market board room.

7.0 REPORTS

8.0 CORRESPONDENCE

9.0 NEXT MEETING

March 6, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. in Committee Room #2

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Certified Correct,

LAURA MOODIE
CHAIR

LAUREN BLAKE
COMMITTEE CLERK