



## **PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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

### **MINUTES**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Laura Moodie, Chair	- Arts Professional
Gabriela Diaconu	- Artist of Recognized Standing
Jacqueline Dionne	- Arts Commission Representative
Ted Drabyk	- Community Member
Councillor Bill Harper	- Council Representative
Mariane Kazemir	- Community Member
Peter Lojewski	- Community Member
Carolyn McLaughlin	- Artist of Recognized Standing
Lynne Probyn	- Community Member at Large, Vice Chair

#### **MEMBERS REGRETS:**

Laura Cuthbert	- Community Member
Christopher Dawson-Murphy	- Community Member
Eric Pattison	- Urban Designer

#### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Rob McCullough	- Manager, Cultural Services
Sloane Elphinstone	- Recreation Programmer
Lauren Blake	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m.

### **1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

The agenda was amended by:

- Adding new item: 4.4 - Vancouver Biennale – Rob McCullough
- Adding new item: 4.5 - Doors to Knowledge update – Sloane Elphinstone

## 2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

### 2.1 Adoption of Meeting Minutes of February 6, 2014

#### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the minutes of the Public Arts Advisory Committee meeting held February 6, 2014 be adopted.*

**CARRIED.**

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

## 3.0 PRESENTATION

### 3.1 North Vancouver Public Art and Mexico Beach Art – Peter Lojewski

**Peter Lojewski, Community Member**, provided a presentation regarding public art in North Vancouver and in Mexico.

With respect to the public art in North Vancouver, the Committee noted that there were prominent themes of industrialism and nature. It was noted that the artists that have been commissioned to create the “Wait for Me, Daddy” memorial have created public art in North Vancouver.

Mr. Lojewski reported that the public art in Mexico were pieces that he created with objects found on the beach during a vacation.

## 4.0 NEW BUSINESS

### 4.1 Traffic control boxes in Queensborough – Sloane Elphinstone

**Sloane Elphinstone, Recreation Programmer**, reported that artists from the organization “Artists in the Borough” have approached the City to design wrap covers for traffic control boxes, and that she will be working with the artists to collect potential images for the boxes. Ms. Elphinstone has contacted New Westminster artists regarding interest in creating a wrap cover for a new traffic control box that is to be installed at Carnarvon Street and Eighth Street.

Ms. Elphinstone advised that the Engineering Department would contribute the equivalent amount of funds as they would have for standard, company-issued traffic controller wrap cover. The additional funds will be contributed from a City Arts and Culture budget.

Discussion ensued and the Committee noted the following information:

- It was suggested that the locations of the art-covered traffic control boxes could be included on the Cultural Map.

- It was noted that the wrap covers may discourage vandalism and graffiti of the traffic controller boxes.

#### 4.2 **New Westminster Community Development Society Art Installation** – Rob McCullough & Sloane Elphinstone

**Rob McCullough, Manager, Cultural Services**, provided an update regarding the New Westminster Community Development Society (CDS) art installation. The proposed location for the installation is the east end of downtown near the Columbia Street median. Regarding the installation, Mr. McCullough reported the following information:

- The installation must be mindful of traffic safety, and could stand as a welcoming piece for the historic downtown.
- The vision for the CDS project is for the installation to support Downtown New Westminster.
- The CDS has indicated that they do not want to be a part of the selection process; however, it was noted that they should remain informed of the process.
- It was reported that the median has electrical power; however, it remains unclear whether or not the installation will be provided access to it.
- It is unclear if there are utilities beneath the site that may add additional restrictions regarding the art installation.

Mr. McCullough advised that he will consult with the Engineering Department regarding potential limitations, as well as with TransLink to investigate if there is a right-of-way agreement with the City with respect to the site.

Mr. McCullough requested that the Committee provide comments regarding a Request for Proposal (RFP). Discussion ensued, and the Committee provided the following comments:

- Metal, steel, cement and concrete were materials that were suggested;
- Shopping, food and history were noted as terms that could be incorporated into the proposal;
- As Downtown has been historically called “the Golden Mile”, it was suggested this could be a general theme for the project;
- It was noted that bridal shops are prominent along Columbia Street, and perhaps that could be incorporated into the art piece;
- The proximity to the riverfront was discussed, and it was suggested that ships and the waterfront could be incorporated into the art piece;
- “Fire” and “rebirth” were suggested as themes of downtown;
- It was noted that New Westminster is the physical centre of Metro Vancouver;
- New Westminster has been a historic meeting place of the Lower Mainland, and it was noted that the Interurban Railway concluded here;

- The piece could be reflective for additional interest at nighttime;
- The piece should be robust, so it could withstand a possible collision with a car;
- The piece could be positioned so a car would be able to pass underneath it;
- Artists should be made aware of the physical limitations that will be imposed on the piece, due to traffic safety and sightlines;
- The piece could act as a traffic calming element, as it was noted the posted speed limit for this area is 30 kilometres an hour;

The Committee discussed the possibility of providing a broad theme, artists bringing forward their ideas. It was suggested that the theme could be simple, such as “reflective of the identity of the downtown area, past, present and future.”

The Committee discussed potential selection processes regarding public art, and was in favour of having a selection sub-committee comprised of seven voting members in the following structure:

- one local artist;
- one artist professional;
- two community members from the Downtown area;
- two Downtown association representatives (such as the Downtown Business Improvement Association and the Downtown Resident’s Association); and,
- one Public Art Advisory Committee member.

The Committee advised that they would like to have an additional Public Art Advisory Committee member serve on the selection sub-committee in a non-voting capacity.

Sloane Elphinstone, Recreation Programmer, advised that she will contact the CDS to confirm that they do not wish to serve on the selection committee.

Mr. McCullough advised that he will bring the RFP forward for the next Public Art Advisory Committee meeting.

#### **4.3 Discussion of February 25, 2014 Presentation from Surrey Visual and Community Art Manager – Rob McCullough**

This item was discussed under item 4.4.

#### **4.4 Vancouver Biennale Update – Rob McCullough**

**Rob McCullough, Manager, Cultural Services**, reviewed an article regarding the Vancouver Biennale that was published in the March 5, 2014 Vancouver Sun newspaper. Mr. McCullough reported that there was incorrect and premature

information included in the article, noting that the process with respect to the Biennale has not yet been completed, and that a final selection of projects has not yet been confirmed. Correspondence from the community regarding the incorrect information contained within the article was provided as an on-table item and discussed.

With respect to the Jose Resénde installation, Mr. McCullough reported that train cars will not be able to be installed at Pier Park due to technical restraints.

#### **4.5 Doors To Knowledge Update – Sloane Elphinstone**

**Sloane Elphinstone, Recreation Programmer**, provided an update regarding the Doors To Knowledge installation that has been proposed for the Queensborough Community Centre garden. Ms. Elphinstone reported that the installation fees for the piece will be \$9870.00, and would consist of a concrete slab with fittings to secure the piece. The piece would be installed for a minimum term of one year, at which point it will become available to the public for purchase. Ms. Elphinstone advised that the City would assume responsibility for the maintenance of the piece, including vandalism, during the period of its installation. If the piece is purchased, the buyer would assume responsibility for moving costs.

Ms. Elphinstone reported that the Queensborough Community Centre and its Special Program Committee have been consulted regarding the installation, however there has not yet been a public consultation.

The Committee advised that they will discuss the installation at the next meeting.

#### **5.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **6.0 REPORTS**

#### **7.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **8.0 NEXT MEETING**

**April 3, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. in Committee Room #2**

**9.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**ON MOTION**, the meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Certified Correct,

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**LAURA MOODIE**  
**CHAIR**

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**LAUREN BLAKE**  
**COMMITTEE CLERK**