



PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 8, 2015 – 5:00 p.m.
Committee Room No. 2
City Hall

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Laura Moodie, Chair	- Arts Professional
Christopher Dawson-Murphy	- Community Member
Ted Drabyk	- Community Member
Councillor Bill Harper	- Council Representative (exited at 5:55 p.m.)
Mariane Kazemir	- Community Member
Peter Lojewski	- Community Member
Carolyn McLaughlin	- Artist of Recognized Standing
Eric Pattison	- Urban Designer
Lynne Probyn	- Community Member at Large, Vice Chair

MEMBERS REGRETS:

Laura Cuthbert	- Community Member
Gabriela Diaconu	- Artist of Recognized Standing
Jacqueline Dionne	- Arts Commission Representative

GUESTS:

Councillor Mary Trentadue	- Council Member
Peter Hall	- SFU Professor (arrived at 5:21 p.m.)
Pamela Stern	- SFU Professor (arrived at 5:25 p.m.)

STAFF PRESENT:

Rob McCullough	- Manager, Cultural Services
Mark Allison	- Manager, Strategic Initiatives and Sustainability (exited at 5:55 p.m.)
Erika Mashig	- Parks and Open Space Planner (exited at 5:55 p.m.)
Biliana Velkova	- Arts Coordinator
Lauren Blake	- Committee Clerk

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

1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the September 4, 2014 Minutes

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the Public Arts Advisory Committee meeting held September 4, 2014 be adopted.

CARRIED.

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

2.2 Notes of November 6, 2014

The notes of the Public Arts Advisory Committee meeting held November 6, 2014 were circulated for information.

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Public Art and the Fraser River

Eric Pattison, Committee Member, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding public art projects and rivers.

Peter Hall and Pamela Stern, Simon Fraser University, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding their research on New Westminster's relations with the Fraser River, advising that their work will be displayed at the Anvil Centre beginning July 9, 2015.

3.2 Front Street Parkade Beautification

Mark Allison, Manager, Strategic Initiatives and Sustainability, Erica Mashig, Parks and Open Space Planner, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Front Street Parkade Beautification project, and noted the following information:

- The proposed waterfront vision was established in 2011, and includes a pedestrian friendly Front Street which highlights the heritage buildings and has a waterfront connection;
- The existing parkade is a physical and visual barrier to the waterfront;
- Removing part of the existing parkade could reduce the impact of trucks and trains on the waterfront;
- A parking study conducted by the City has indicated that 400-450 parking stalls would be required to keep businesses in the area viable;
- The eastern portion of the parkade will require an upgrade to bring the parkade up to code in order to provide adequate parking for the area;

- The upgrade would include replacing the railings, which had created an opportunity to install a wire mesh screen along with the new railing, which would be an excellent canvas for a public art installation;
- The upgrade would also include new LED lighting which would provide back lighting for the project;
- Lightweight plastic pucks can be used to create an image on the mesh screen;
- As the destruction of the western portion of parkade would impact Front Street Businesses, the entire process of rehabilitating the eastern portion of the parkade and the demolition of the western parkade must be completed quickly; and,
- Suggested themes for the installation include nautical, fish of the Fraser River and the River Market.

In response to questions from the Committee, Mr. Allison and Ms. Mashig provided the following information:

- The pucks that are used for the installation would be securely snapped onto the mesh, and would require a simple tool to remove;
- There would be a balance of pucks to maintain views of the water for users of the deck, and the view from the top deck of the park will remain unobstructed;
- Alternative types of parkade art installations have been considered, however it was noted that the puck installation is cost efficient and effective at capturing community spirit;
- The artist selected could use coloured pucks, instead of white, or could request coloured lighting;
- The call for artists would be open to all artists;
- Pixel art installation is widespread and is similar to the proposed type of installation for this project;
- Similar installations have been installed for approximately ten years; and,
- The budget for the artistic portion of the project would be approximately \$200, 000 to be taken from the Public Art Reserve Fund.

Discussion ensued and the Committee expressed support for the project, noting that this is a great initiative. The Committee noted the following additional suggestions:

- The City create a statement of significance for the parkade due to its social and heritage value;
- The configuration of the mesh screen be kept open to the artist;
- Images other than historical images be considered for the project;
- An architect and artist be included on the submission;
- A lighting design consultant be hired for the project;

- The project be presented to the New Westminster Design Panel for comment; and,
- City Page could be utilized to facilitate public education regarding public art projects.

Staff noted that Committee representatives would be required for the selection panel, and the following members volunteered:

- Christopher Dawson-Murphy;
- Mariane Kazemir;
- Laura Moodie; and,
- Lynne Probyn

3.3 TransLink Public Art Program

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, reviewed the TransLink Public Art Program, noting that a Committee member representative is needed for the permanent installation selection jury.

In response to questions from the Committee, Ms. Velkova advised that TransLink placed a closed call for the permanent installation, and that a Public Art consultant will work with the selection jury.

Carolyn McLaughlin, Artist of Recognized Standing, was selected as the Committee representative for the permanent installation selection jury as a non-voting member.

4.0 NEW BUSINESS

There were no items.

5.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1 New Westminster Community Development Society Public Art Call Update

Rob McCullough, Manager of Cultural Services, advised that there have been international responses with respect to the New Westminster Community Development Society Public Art Call. Mr. McCullough further advised that the New Westminster Business Improvement Association has requested to have a representative on the selection panel.

5.2 Doors to Knowledge installation quote update

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, advised that the quote for the installation of Doors to Knowledge would be \$40,000 due to landscaping issues of the site.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee noted that the new installation quote is higher than the original \$10,000 quote and requested that staff investigate an alternative site for the placement of the installation.

6.0 REPORTS

There were no items.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

February 5, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. in Committee Room #2

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Certified Correct,

LAURA MOODIE
CHAIR

LAUREN BLAKE
COMMITTEE CLERK