



PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Karen Campbell	- Urban Designer
Ted Drabyk	- Community Member
Mariane Kazemir	- Community Member
Peter Lojewski	- Community Member
Eric Pattison	- Urban Designer
Lynne Probyn	- Community Member
Councillor Mary Trentadue	- Council Representative

MEMBERS REGRETS:

Jacqueline Dionne	- Arts Commission Representative
Eryne Donahue	- Community Member

GUESTS:

Merril Hall	- Coordinator, Garden Gals
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STAFF PRESENT:

Rob McCullough	- Manager, Cultural Services
Biliana Velkova	- Arts Coordinator
Lauren Blake	- Committee Clerk

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

1.0 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The following item was added to the agenda:

- 5.5: Biennale Update

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the February 5, 2015 Minutes

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the Public Arts Advisory Committee meeting held February 5, 2015 be adopted.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Temporary Art Installations

Merril Hall, Coordinator, Garden Gals, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding temporary art installations in New Westminster, noting that the Garden Girls have two electrical boxes in Moody Park wrapped in their artwork. Ms. Hall reported that the Garden Gals have worked with Century House to implement a Cultural Crawl at Moody Park, with projects including yarn bombing and fence art. Ms. Hall noted that the Fence Art project will continue with the development of the Moody Park Off-Leash Dog Park.

In response to questions from the Committee, Ms. Hall noted the following information:

- Garden Gals paintings have been sold during library exhibitions;
- The Garden Gals are currently considering projects to install for 2015;
- The group will have an exhibition to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the New Westminster Library, as well as an exhibition at the Anvil Centre Community Art Space in Spring 2016; and,
- The Garden Gals have not applied for funding to assist with their installations.

Discussion ensued and the Committee noted the following suggestions:

- The Committee could work with groups such as the Garden Gals to target art projects towards specific demographics in the community;
- That the Garden Gals apply for various grants to implement their local public art projects; and,
- That the Garden Gals forward ideas to the Committee for assistance.

4.0 NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Time based, temporary and ephemeral public art

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding time based, temporary and ephemeral public art.

Discussion ensued and the Committee noted the following comments:

- A conceptual temporary art installation could be easily accessible to the public;
- A temporary art installation could be an ideal project to familiarize the community with public art;
- It was suggested that vacant businesses on Columbia Street could be potential locations for temporary art installations, and could provide an attraction for local businesses;
- It was suggested that temporary art could be installed on the hoarding during the deconstruction of the Front Street Parkade; and,
- A public art installation could identify the entrance to under-utilized locations, such as Front Street and the Brunette Street Wharf.

Committee members are to email Lauren Blake, Committee Clerk, with potential locations for temporary art installations.

4.2 “Holding” a Member’s Term

Lauren Blake, Committee Clerk, reported that a newly appointed Committee member, Eryne Donahue, has advised that she would be unable to attend the first three scheduled meetings due to an existing scheduling conflict.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Committee does not express concerns with respect to Eryne Donahue’s existing scheduling conflict for the first three meetings of the Public Art Advisory Committee.

CARRIED.

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

5.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1 Selection of Vice-Chair for the 2015 Term

Lauren Blake, Committee Clerk, advised that Jacqueline Dionne, Arts Commission representative, has expressed an interest in serving as the Vice-Chair for the 2015 term.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Jacqueline Dionne be selected as the Vice-Chair for the 2015 term.

CARRIED.

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

5.2 Alternate Site Placement of Doors To Knowledge Committee Suggestions

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, summarized the on-table submissions from Committee members regarding potential alternative site locations for the Doors To Knowledge installation.

Discussion ensued regarding the suggested locations and the Committee noted the following comments:

Queen's Park:

- The location in front of the Arts Council Gallery is a heavily trafficked area with many activities programmed; and,
- It was noted that the location may be better suited for a more specialized project.

Albert Crescent Park:

- It was suggested that the park is currently under-utilized and the installation could provide interest in the area;
- There is a pathway throughout the park that could provide access and visibility to the installation; and,
- The Community Development Society project would be located in close proximity.

Glenbrook Park:

- Glenbrook Middle School would be in close proximity, which would support the theme of the installation;
- There is a pathway throughout the park that could provide access and visibility to the installation; and,
- The park is adjacent to a quiet street which could provide added visibility for pedestrians and passing vehicles.

Grimston Park:

- It was noted that the park is heavily utilized;
- The installation would be visible the SkyTrain;
- There are currently no public art installations located in the West End;
- The installation would not affect the usability of the park;
- The park is well-lit at night; and,

- There is an active cycling greenway located at the park.

The Committee questioned whether public art should be installed in heavy or under-utilized locations, and requested that staff investigate best practices with respect to placement of public art.

The Committee requested that staff investigate the suggested locations at Grimston Park, Glenbrook Park and Queen's Park for the installation and provide a report to the Committee regarding the suggested locations, including site constraints and estimated cost associations. In addition, the Committee requested that staff create a spreadsheet of public art locations, with specified parameters.

5.3 Front Street Parkade Public Art Update

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, reported that the Front Street Parkade demolition has been deferred. With respect to the Front Street Parkade public art call, Ms. Velkova advised that 160 responses have been received in response to the survey outlining the ten proposed themes. The top three themes in order of the most votes received were:

- Where Nature Meets Urban (76 votes)
- The History of this Place (60 votes)
- The Working River (58 votes)

Ms. Velkova advised that she would distribute the results of the survey to the Committee.

Discussion ensued and the Committee suggested that the second and third place theme be combined, so that a fourth, more diverse theme could be included with the request for proposal.

5.4 Community Development Society Representative on the CDS Project Selection Jury

Rob McCullough, Manager, Cultural Services, provided an update regarding the Community Development Society (CDS) project, noting that the deadline for submissions is March 6, 2015 and that 20 submissions have been received to date. Mr. McCullough advised that Enzo Guerriero, CDS, has requested to represent the CDS on the project's selection jury and that the Downtown Business Improvement Association has also expressed an interest in serving on the selection jury.

Discussion ensued and the Committee concluded that the CDS representative could constitute as one of the Downtown Association members as per the discussion regarding the project's membership structure at the March 6, 2014

Public Art Advisory Committee meeting. The Committee requested that staff contact the Downtown New Westminster Business Improvement Association for a representative to serve on the selection jury. It was suggested that staff contact the Biennale for names with respect to the local artist and artist professional selection jury members.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Eric Pattison be selected as the Public Art Advisory Committee voting member on the Community Development Society project selection jury.

CARRIED.

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

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Ted Drabyk be selected as the Public Art Advisory Committee non- voting member on the Community Development Society project selection jury.

CARRIED.

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

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT staff draft a Terms of Reference with respect to a public art selection jury.

CARRIED.

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

5.5 Biennale Update

Rob McCullough, Manager, Cultural Services, reported that the process to completing an agreement with the Biennale is moving forward and the Biennale has agreed to council's terms for the installations of WOW New Westminster, Blue Trees and Urban Furniture. Mr. McCullough noted that a location has yet to be determined for the Blue Trees installation and that the artist will spend up to two weeks in New Westminster to complete the project.

In response to questions from the Committee, Mr. McCullough advised that the Biennale installation is scheduled to conclude on July 31, 2016. With respect to Blue Trees, Mr. McCullough noted that the selected trees would be painted in the fall to provide an ideal contrast between the blooming trees and blue trunks.

Discussion ensued and the Committee suggested that the City could provide programming, such as tours, for the Biennale installations. It was also suggested that Jose Resende could speak to his installation, either in person or via video, to assist the community with understanding his work.

6.0 REPORTS

There were no items.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

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

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Certified Correct,

LYNNE PROBYN
CHAIR

LAUREN BLAKE
COMMITTEE CLERK