



PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 7, 2015 – 5:00 p.m.
Committee Room No. 2
City Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lynne Probyn	- Chair, Community Member
Karen Campbell	- Urban Designer
Jacqueline Dionne	- Arts Commission Representative
Eryne Donahue	- Community Member
Ted Drabyk	- Community Member
Mariane Kazemir	- Community Member
Eric Pattison	- Urban Designer

MEMBERS REGRETS:

Councillor Mary Trentadue	- Council Representative
Peter Lojewski	- Community Member

STAFF PRESENT:

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Item 4.4 – Committee Social was added to the agenda.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the April 2, 2015 Minutes

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the April 2, 2015 Public Art Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

There were no items.

4.0 NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Appointments to the “Gateway to Downtown” Selection Jury

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the following individuals be selected to serve on the “Gateway to Downtown” selection jury:

- *Local artist representative: Angela Au Hemphill*
- *Community member representative: Tetsuomi Anzai*
- *Community member representative: Stephen O’Shea*
- *Downtown New Westminster association representative: Madison McKitrick*

CARRIED.

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

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Sandra Dent be invited to participate as the arts professional representative on the “Gateway to Downtown” public art installation selection jury.

CARRIED.

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

4.2 Canada 150 Mosaic

Rob McCullough, Manager, Cultural Services, summarized the Canada 150 Mosaic proposal.

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

- It is not clear how local artists are chosen for the project, what the criteria to be a local artist involved with the program is, or who decides the image to be created by the community;
- Funding would be allocated from the Public Art Reserve Fund;
- The project is open to all communities across Canada; and,
- It is not anticipated that the program would have a large impact or requirement of staff time.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee noted that project could provide an easy opportunity to participate in a public art project. The Committee suggested that the Pick-a-Box Funds could be utilized towards the project if it were to be installed at Queen’s Park. The Committee requested additional information for the following items:

- The material of the tiles;
- The permanence of the installation; and,
- Clarification regarding the cost involved for the project.

MOVED and SECOND

THAT staff investigate the 150 Canada Mosaic project and report back to the Committee.

CARRIED.

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

4.3 Love Locks

Rob McCullough, Manager of Cultural Services, advised that the chain link fence that is currently being utilized to accommodate “love locks” would be unable to handle the weight of the locks. The Committee has been requested to assess if there could be an opportunity to create a public art surface that love locks could be attached on.

In response to questions from the Committee, Mr. McCullough advised that the project funds would be allocated from the Public Art Reserve Fund.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee did not express interest in pursuing a project to address the issue, noting that it does not appear to be an appropriate public art project.

4.4 Committee Social

Lynne Probyn, Chair, suggested that the Committee could have a social gathering following the June 4, 2015 Public Art Advisory Committee meeting.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee suggested that the event could include a walking tour of the progress on the Biennale installations.

5.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1 Biennale Blue Trees Proposal Update

Rob McCullough, Manager, Cultural Services, advised the additional Biennale Blue Trees installation that was presented to the Committee at the April 2, 2015 meeting would require a renegotiation of the Vancouver Biennale contract with the City to determine what parties would be responsible for what elements of the additional installation. With respect to the proposal, Mr. McCullough outlined the following information:

- The renegotiations would cost the City additional legal fees, as well as may affect the timeline of the other Biennale installations;
- The light poles located in front of City Hall do not have mounting brackets to allow for the proposed additional banner installations, however, there are light poles available for banners between Sixth Street and Eighth Street in front of Douglas College;
- The City would be responsible for the additional 22 banners, and the estimated cost is \$1800;

- The additional banners would be an unanticipated cost to the arts budget, and it was suggested that the funding could also come from the Public Art Reserve Fund;
- The Biennale has requested that the banners be implemented at the beginning of the program;
- The Biennale has not outlined how auctioned trees would be removed from the installation i.e. – would the Biennale wait until all the trees have all been sold and uninstall the trees all at once; and,
- It has not been outlined how auctioned trees would be picked up from the site.

In addition, Mr. McCullough reported the following concerns as expressed by Claude Ledoux, Parks Horticultural Manager:

- The site would be swampy during the time period of the proposed installation;
- Heavy equipment would be required for the installation due to the height of the trees which could ruin City Hall's lawn;
- There is no 2015 planting budget as the City is utilizing stock from 2014;
- The burlap wrapped bulbs can only be moved so many times before damaging the tree;
- There may not be space for the trees at the city nursery upon the conclusion of the installation;
- To achieve “crossed trees”, holes would be required to house the root bulb and the digging would affect the landscaping and irrigation of the site after the installation has been removed; and,
- Alder trees would be difficult to replant upon the conclusion of the installation.

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

- A limit on the additional trees would be defined by the site and the artist;
- Council approval would be required with respect to a change to the agreement; and,
- The City has tried to ensure that we have the copyrights to own the items after the Biennale has concluded to allow us to utilize items such as the banners after the Biennale has ended.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee reiterated its support for moving the installation up to Royal Avenue, noting that there are site issues to consider for every project. The Committee suggested that three extra blue trees be installed on the lawn in front of City Hall, as well as banners on a temporary structure, and information directing individuals to the main Biennale projects located downtown. The Committee further suggested that the banners could be sold upon the conclusion of the Biennale to recuperate some of the additional costs, if possible.

5.2 Parkade Public Art Expressions of Interest

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, summarized the on-table document, noting the following additional information:

- The expression of interest must be an open call due to the City's purchasing policy regarding projects valued over \$75,000;
- This would be the first step in a two-tiered process;
- Staff would review the ability of an artist to develop a project of this magnitude;
- Shortlisted artists would be provided an opportunity to obtain additional information regarding the site and would develop a proposal;
- It is anticipated that the project would begin in September 2015 during the rehabilitation process; and,
- The artist must consider the maintenance of the installation due to its proximity to the railway.

In response to questions from the Committee, Ms. Velkova advised that the Christian Moeller retains the copyright to the plastic puck system as utilized in his "News Readers" installation. The artist selected for this project could work with a different material. With respect to concerns regarding dust and damage to the installation during the demolition phase, Eric Pattinson, Urban Designer, advised that construction work such as this is heavily regulated by Worksafe BC and should not cause damage to the installation.

6.0 REPORTS

There were no items.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items.

8.0 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

MOTION:

THAT pursuant to Section 90 of the Community Charter, members of the public be excluded from the Closed Meeting of Council immediately following the Regular Meeting of Council on the basis that the subject matter of all agenda items to be considered relate to matters listed under Section 90(1)(k) of the Community Charter:

- (k) *negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public*

Purpose of the meeting:
Negotiations

9.0 NEXT MEETING

June 4, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. in Committee Room #2

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Certified Correct,

LYNNE PROBYN
CHAIR

LAUREN BLAKE
COMMITTEE CLERK