



**PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(PAAC)**

**December 11, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.
Committee Room 2, City Hall
MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Stephen O’Shea | - Chair, Arts Professional Representative |
| Councillor Mary Trentadue | - Council Representative |
| Eryne Donahue | - Alternate Chair
Artist of Recognized Standing in New Westminster |
| Peter Leblanc | - Non-Profit Representative |
| Janice Meehan | - Community Member |
| Neal Michael | - Community Member |
| David Vivian | - Arts Professional Representative |

MEMBER REGRETS:

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Kendra Johnston | - Community Member |
| Bruce Hemstock | - Urban Designer |

GUEST:

- | | |
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| Laura Ranalletta | - Queensborough Special Programs Committee |
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STAFF PRESENT:

- | | |
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| Todd Ayotte | - Manager, Community Arts & Theatre |
| Rob McCullough | - Manager, Museums & Heritage Services |
| Tobi May | - Project Manager, Civic Buildings & Properties |
| Carilyn Cook | - Committee Clerk |

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. with Mr. Vivian in attendance via teleconference.

1.0 ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

1.1 MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Agenda for the Public Art Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for December 11, 2019 be adopted with the addition of Item 5.3 – Request for an Update on the Public Art Project at the Queens Park Washroom and noting that New Business Item 5.1: Introduction of Todd Ayotte, Manager of Community Arts & Theatre be addressed prior to the start of Presentations Item 3.1: Ewen Mural Legacy Project.

CARRIED.

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

2.0 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Meeting Minutes of October 10, 2019

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the October 10, 2019 Public Art Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Ewen Mural Legacy Project

Laura Ranalletta, Queensborough Special Projects Committee (QSPC) summarized the December 2019 report titled, “Mazarine Mural Legacy Project – Queensborough Special Programs Committee”, which PAAC members received in their agenda packages and provided a presentation on the Project. The Mazarine Mural Legacy Project, named after the 40-unit supportive housing development located at 838 Ewen Avenue, is anticipated to be a highly visible public art piece which may assist in fostering goodwill between current Queensborough residents and the new residents moving into the housing development. Ms. Ranalletta shared that the proposed completion date of the Project is April 2020 and that the QSPC had previously met with John Stark, Supervisor of Community Planning, who suggested that the Project be brought to the PAAC for discussion.

In response to questions from the Committee, staff provided the following comments:

- The owner of the building needs to be determined;
- The timeline is too tight for the art call process to be completed and to engage with the community in a meaningful manner; if the artist was able to be selected in time for the opening, it would be a good opportunity to launch the project and invite the artists to the opening in order to engage with the entire community;
- With respect to construction deadlines, it is common practice to have a delayed grand opening, scheduled at a future date beyond project completion and occupancy; and,
- Copyright for public art works remain with artist as creator of the artwork with the notation that the City may use images for internal branding and promotional purposes, not for commercial use.

In response to questions from the Committee, Ms. Ranalletta provided the following comments:

- While the QSPC has received a \$6,600 community grant from the City, the Project could probably not be competed for less than \$30k;
- A Terms of Reference is currently being created to clarify the QSPC's relationship with the Queensborough Community Centre (QCC) as the QSPC currently has office space at the rec centre and offers programming to the community, in addition to Parks and Recreation programming;
- The basic ask would be that the PAAC fund the balance of the artwork;
- Queen Elizabeth Elementary School's grey canoe project, which addresses reconciliation, could tie into the Project with the artists speaking with residents to see what community means to them, after which artists would submit sample artwork;
- The QSPC would like to be flexible to what the City would like with respect to the timeline, etc.;
- A community and inclusion exhibition is currently in development with Queen Elizabeth Elementary School and Queensborough Middle School and may include submissions from New Westminster Secondary School students;
- The exhibition, to take place at the QCC in January 2020, will nurture community involvement in the mural process and inspire those responding to the art call;
- It is expected that the April 2020 launch will be covered in the media; and,
- As the Elizabeth Fry Society knows who will be residing at the Lodge upon its completion, the soon-to-be residents could also be invited to attend the event.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee provided the following comments:

- The location is prominent, in the heart of the community, and the artwork could be a strong signature piece for the City;
- PAAC recently received a request for funding of a completed art installation and, while the Committee was interested in that project, it did not receive funds as it did not meet the criteria for PAAC funding. It is good to see this project coming forward prior to the call and installation as there are funds available for projects that PAAC recommends to Council for support;
- This could be an exciting project for the Committee to take part in by providing assistance with the artist call;
- The grand opening would be a good opportunity to engage with the current community and residents moving into the Lodge to receive feedback and ideas;
- The structure, an interim dwelling with an approximate 20 year lifespan, may be considered a temporary art project and consideration would have to be made with respect to how long it would last in comparison with the budget;

- The community grant already received by the QSPC may only cover the cost of the consultation. Perhaps, the PAAC could consider looking at the actual project itself beyond the QSPC doing the consultation; and,
- Clarification needs to be made with respect to exactly what is being asked of the PAAC. Advice could easily be provided; however, if funding is being requested, more work would have to be done with further discussion taking place.

Prior to leaving the meeting, Ms. Ranalletta was invited to the January meeting of the PAAC to provide more information to the Committee and to clarify what the QSPC is asking of the PAAC.

Additional staff comments included:

- Mr. Ayotte will speak with Mr. Stark regarding the Project's deadline as more time will be needed if the Committee wished to pursue it; and,
- It needs to be determined if there will be a third party involved in the project (The Elizabeth Fry Society, BC Housing, etc.).

Additional comments from the Committee included:

- This could be a great community-based endeavour, unifying the community, and the PAAC should consider supporting it;
- The Project could be a pilot as to how the PAAC might work with partners in the future, subject to confirmation of aspects of the project the Committee could advise on, and identification of non-negotiable items for the QSPC; and,
- BC Housing's recent modular housing projects in Vancouver may provide some insight.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Public Art Advisory Committee request that staff follow up with the various parties related to the Mazarine Mural Legacy Project regarding the Project timeline, explore the possibility of the Project becoming a larger public arts project, and report the findings back to the Committee.

CARRIED.

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

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 New Westminster Aquatic and Community Centre (NWACC) Jury Selection Update

Rob McCullough, Manager, Museums & Heritage Services, advised that the jury has met, reviewed the proposals, and shortlisted five of them. A site visit and technical review has taken place with the artists who will now work on their proposals for the next jury meeting.

Neal Michael, Community Member, shared that he was honoured to be a part of the jury and that the meeting went well in terms of narrowing down the candidates as there was a lot of discussion to come to agreement on the assessments.

4.2 Sportsplex Call for Artists

Tobi May, Project Manager, Civic Buildings & Properties, announced that the final touches were being put on the Sportsplex Call for Artists and that it would be going out on December 12, 2019. She also advised that \$15,000 will be held back as a contingency fund and to cover artists' honoraria, and the opening text of the Call includes the City's core value of inclusion as well as the City's seven bold steps to address the climate change so that the artists can take those things into consideration.

Ms. May agreed with Councillor Trentadue's suggestion that care needed to be taken when providing imagery and design elements in art calls as they may preempt someone's concept and lead them to believe that the sample imagery/design elements provided are what the City wants and advised that in the future elements such as lighting, etc., could be mentioned but not specifically.

4.3 Queens Park Washroom Public Art Project

Upon Councillor Trentadue's request, staff will provide an update on the Queens Park Washroom Public Art Project at the next meeting.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Introduction of Todd Ayotte, Manager of Community Arts and Theatre

Mr. Ayotte was introduced to Committee members.

Stephen O'Shea, Chair and Arts Professional Representative, advised Committee members that there were still a number of vacancies on the Committee for 2020

and requested the members reach out to their networks and to anyone who may be interested in applying to be on the Committee.

5.2 Library Public Art Call

Mr. Ayotte announced that the upcoming public art call for the library will have a budget of \$50k, and that he will be bringing it to the Committee for information and feedback. The draft call will be brought to the Committee at the next meeting to be approved or to receive further feedback.

Upon meeting with the Library Board in November, Mr. Ayotte noted the following:

- There is no hard timeline for the project;
- Artists will need to consider the library's existing art collection and the rotating exhibitions that also occupy the space;
- Space constraints and functionality of the library must also be contemplated; therefore, art inside the building should be two dimensional. Three dimensional art is acceptable if it does not compromise floor space. Structural reinforcement in the walls or ceiling should not be required to accommodate the art work, nor should the art work obstruct lighting;
- Once the exterior public art location is determined, any existing artwork must not be compromised;
- Themes include community, innovation through time, connection, and inclusion. Books and a literal approach are not desired; and,
- The mission statement of the library should be incorporated in the call.

Mr. Ayotte advised that photos of potential exterior and interior locations will be presented at the next meeting and in the call, and the Library Board will accompany artists on the site visit. Discussion regarding potential makeup of the selection panel included a PAAC member, a Library Board member, two members from the library's Youth Advisory Committee (who would have one vote), and an art expert.

Staff will determine the Library Board's role in the decision-making process and what special requirements there may be as the Board is governed through the Province.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee provided the following comments:

- Surrey's Guildford Library and Recreation Centre has projection, audio, and sculpture art pieces in a location that allows them to stand out;

- The artwork could sensitively challenge boundaries with the acknowledgement and/or questioning of the constraints that the Board has laid out; and,
- Given the budget for the project, it was recommended that a one-stage call for proposals would be the most expedient way to approach this project and maximize available funding for the project.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

There were no items.

7.0 NEXT MEETING

Committee members agreed to move the meeting date from Thursday, January 9, 2020 to Wednesday, January 22, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Committee members stated that the PAAC should commence with work outlined in the Public Art Plan and advised that the Public Art Policy may also need to be reviewed. Mr. Ayotte advised that this item would be added to the agenda for the January 22, 2020 Committee meeting for further discussion.

A Committee member noted that the PAAC should also work on a policy addressing public art project partnerships.

In response to a Committee member's query regarding the public art program budget, Mr. Ayotte advised that the last budget went forward in the spring of 2019 and that the projects are currently being worked on. Councillor Trentadue noted that Capture has been in the budget for a number of years as a place holder and a Committee member requested that PAAC be included in the development of the next public art program budget.

Councillor Trentadue advised that the Public Art Advisory Committee, in its current state, would continue through 2020 and then merge with the Arts Commission. Committee members agreed that a discussion will have to take place to determine how the two advisory bodies will integrate with each other while maintaining the focussed work of the PAAC.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

Certified Correct,

Original Signed
Stephen O'Shea
Chair

Original Signed
Carilyn Cook
Committee Clerk