



Corporation of the City of
NEW WESTMINSTER

Notice is hereby given of the following meeting:

**PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(PAAC)**

September 9, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Meeting held electronically under Ministerial Order No. M192

And in Meeting Room B

AGENDA

1.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

2.0 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Meeting Minutes of July 8, 2021

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Public Art Policy Review Update – Quyen Hoang

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Agnes Greenway Art Opportunity – Quyen Hoang

5.2 Artist Roster – Quyen Hoang

5.3 Open Artist Call – Quyen Hoang

**5.4 Adjustments to the Civic Arts Advisory Model
- Todd Ayotte, Jacque Killawee**

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

7.0 NEXT MEETING

Thursday, November 18, 2021

8.0 ADJOURNMENT



**PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(PAAC)**

July 8, 2021

Meeting held electronically under Ministerial Order No. M192/2020

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Nazli Azimikor	- Chair/Urban Designer
Oliver McTavish-Wisden	- Alternate Chair/Community Member
Councillor Mary Trentadue	- Council Representative
Kathy Curry	- Arts Professional Representative
Eryne Donahue	- Artist of Recognized Standing in New Westminster
Peter Leblanc	- Arts Commission Representative
Janice Meehan	- Community Member
Stephen O'Shea	- Arts Professional Representative
David Vivian	- Arts Professional Representative

REGRETS:

Neal Michael	- Community Member
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STAFF PRESENT:

Todd Ayotte	- Manager, Community Arts and Theatre
Quyen Hoang	- Public and Community Art Coordinator
Nicole Ludwig	- Assistant City Clerk
Carilyn Cook	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT pursuant to Section 90 of the Community Charter, members of the public be excluded from the Closed Meeting of Committee immediately following the Regular Meeting of Committee on the basis that the subject matter of all agenda items to be considered related to matters listed under Sections 90(1) (k) and 90 (2) (b):

90 (1) (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; and,

90 (2) (b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party.

CARRIED.

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

1.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1 MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Agenda for the Public Art Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for July 8, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

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 May 6, 2021

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the May 6, 2021 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

There were no items.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Sportsplex Public Art – Update

Quyen Hoang, Public and Community Art Coordinator, noted that the Sportsplex public art project is close to completion and that a press release has gone out officially announcing the art work titled, “Welcome to the Zoo” by artist Nathan Lee. She advised that the unveiling and a discussion of the art work, hosted by the Arts Council of New Westminster would be held virtually on Saturday, July 10, 2021.

4.2 New Westminster Aquatic and Community Centre (NWACC) Public Art – Update

Quyen Hoang, Public and Community Art Coordinator, shared that the New Westminster Aquatic and Community Centre will be called the təməsewtx^w Aquatic and Community Centre which means sea otter house. Ms. Hoang noted that the public art by selected artist James Harry is scheduled to be installed between the spring and summer of 2023.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Community-Initiated Public Art Intake Process

Quyen Hoang, Public and Community Art Coordinator, referred to the memo included in the agenda package and advised that the City does not have a standardized intake process for community-initiated public art projects and that having a process in place would be beneficial to both staff and the community. As such, Ms. Hoang requested input from the Committee to determine a way to review and approve community-initiated proposals as they arise.

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

- Review of project proposals could align with Policy guidelines and the Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) meeting schedule;
- This process would be helpful to others who want to do public art;
- Funding could be set aside to support these types of projects;
- The process will be scalable depending on complexity of the various projects; and,
- Resources such as templates, best practices, and guiding principles could be developed to assist in the planning and implementation of projects.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee provided the following comments:

- Expression of support for a rolling intake of proposals aligned with PAAC meetings;
- The right questions need to be asked in order to ensure a proper evaluation;
- Time-based or ephemeral art work should be a consideration;
- A guiding document for proposals could outline principles to ensure that it is community minded, especially if it is to be situated on civic property and supported and funded by the PAAC;
- Providing a list of criteria for art proposals will facilitate an efficient review of submissions by the Committee;

- Clarification of terms (e.g. public art, public realm, etc.) would be helpful;
- The guidelines could live on the Opportunities for Artists page on the city's website and include PAAC meeting dates with a 30 day deadline for submissions prior to each PAAC meeting; and,
- Proposals should be reviewed by staff prior to going to PAAC to confirm that they meet the criteria outlined in the process document.

5.2 Public Art Policy Review

Quyen Hoang, Public and Community Art Coordinator is working on revising and refining the Public Art Policy to make it more succinct. Ms. Hoang requested feedback from the Committee on a number of recommendations to update the Policy and received the following responses:

Recommendation: Remove administrative processes and create an Operations & Procedures Manual.

- Committee members expressed support for this approach.

Recommendation: Remove Density Bonusing, Voluntary Amenity Contributions, and Private Development.

Councillor Trentadue noted that language in the Policy is outdated as the City is currently seeking amenities from developers such as childcare, parks, or affordable housing and updating the Policy could reflect that change.

- Long term members of the Committee remembered developing the Policy and noted that the Committee has not worked with Planning Department staff to champion public art with developers;
- It may be beneficial to know how other municipalities approach this issue;
- There are pieces in the City's art collection as a result of developer contributions;
- Removal of these aspects of the Policy may result in missed opportunities for public art; therefore; this recommendation should be processed slowly; and,
- Work can be done with Development Services to determine what should be kept in the Policy that would accurately reflect the current situation.

In response to questions from the Committee, Ms. Hoang and Todd Ayotte, Manager, Community Arts and Theatre, provided the following comments:

- This stream of funding does not occur on a regular or reliable basis;
- This change will not detract from how the Public Art Fund is financed;

- Currently, the Policy is not aligned with legislation regarding developer contributions for public art;
- Other strategies can be utilized to explore public art opportunities, including working with the Planning Department, without the language being in the Policy; and,
- Language can be developed to ensure private contributions are encouraged in the Policy.

Recommendation: Update the use of funding to include programming, education and outreach.

- Committee members agreed that including programming, education, and outreach would encourage and facilitate community engagement and discussion around public art.

Recommendation: Update the percent for art funding strategy to allow for pooling funds.

- The rationale for this is agreed to in principle; and
- Two pump stations in Queensborough received public art, benefitting from the existing policy and may not in the future if this is changed.

Ms. Hoang advised that the amendment would allow for flexibility to not proceed with projects on sites solely because there is public art funding and use those funds in a more strategic way.

Recommendation: Diversify the artist selection processes.

- Flexibility with selection processes is beneficial but remain open to new artists through open calls;
- Changing the selection processes could allow for oral application submissions; and,
- Diversification of juries needs to occur as well.

Mr. Ayotte advised that the revised Policy would be brought to the Committee for endorsement before it goes to Council for final approval.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

There were no items.

7.0 NEXT MEETING

Thursday, September 9, 2021

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Certified Correct,

**Nazli Azimikor
Chair**

**Carilyn Cook
Committee Clerk**

DRAFT

City of New Westminster

R E P O R T***OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER***

To: Public Art Advisory Committee Date: September 9, 2021
From: Todd Ayotte Doc#: 1916144
 Manager, Community Arts and Theatre

Subject: Proposed Adjustments to the Existing Civic Arts Advisory Model

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to receive feedback from the Public Art Advisory Committee regarding proposed adjustments to the existing civic arts advisory model.

Following a review of the existing mandate of the Arts Commission and Public Art Advisory Committee, and in response to direction received from Council to centralize the City's arts advisory functions, staff are recommending that a new Arts Advisory Committee be established to replace the existing advisory bodies.

The new Arts Advisory Committee will serve to streamline the existing advisory functions in alignment with the existing operational model, reflect the goals and vision of the Arts Strategy and other civic arts guiding documents and advance the City's commitment to equity and reconciliation.

BACKGROUND

In 2019, the City Task Forces were created in alignment with the City's Strategic Priorities, which included the establishment of the Culture and Economic Development Task Force. The same report recommended streamlining the advisory committee structure within the City and to bring the function of the PAAC within the existing Arts Commission. The goal was to establish a single overarching advisory body for the Arts in New Westminster.

Although the original direction from Council was to complete the transition in January 2021, due to the impact of COVID-19, the existing committee structure was extended to January 2022.

Arts Commission

The Arts Commission, established in 2009, has played a key role in advancing the City's arts and cultural portfolio, including supporting the establishment of a professional staff team and dedicated civic arts infrastructure, the development of key strategic guiding documents and supporting a thriving and diverse civic arts program.

As the portfolio has developed over time, the role of the Arts Commission has shifted away from a governance function to a community advisory function. This shift was noted in the Arts Strategy, which called for the review and revision of the existing mandate and terms of reference in order to better reflect the current advisory role.

Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC)

The PAAC was developed to provide expertise and community input regarding public art policies, projects and procedures and to develop the terms of reference for art selection and commissioning of Public art.

The PAAC has supported the development of the Public Art Program, guiding public and community art selection processes, recommending projects and priorities to Council and providing expert advice to City staff in regards to program implementation, collections maintenance and planning. The PAAC is currently engaged with staff in a review and revision of the Public Art Policy for Council's review and endorsement.

In the process of streamlining the advisory functions, it is important to ensure that the specialized function of the PAAC is reflected in the Terms of Reference and membership to ensure that the rigor and insight this Committee provides will not be lost.

DISCUSSION

Intent of the Arts Advisory Committee

As stated above, the intent of the Arts Advisory Committee is to streamline advisory functions of the Arts Commission and the PAAC, continuing to provide for the broad advisory function of the Arts Commission and at the same time maintain the specialized function of the PAAC.

The Arts Advisory Committee will support and strengthen the arts to benefit everyone in the City, recognizing that BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and people of color), persons with

developmental, physical and acquired disabilities and members of the 2SLGBTQIAP+ communities have traditionally been disadvantaged and excluded from civic processes.

The new Committee will strive to:

- Remove barriers to participation;
- Ensure representation for Indigenous, BIPOC and equity seeking voices;
- Include youth voices and perspectives; and,
- Encourage a balance of expertise that aligns with Committee functions.

The term “equity seeking” refers to those in the community that face entrenched marginalization due to attitudinal, historic, social and environmental barriers including age, ethnicity, disability, economic status, gender, nationality, race, sexual orientation or transgender status.

Role of the Arts Advisory Committee

The Arts Advisory Committee will continue to be a conduit for communication and discussion, providing advice and recommendations to staff and Council on arts-related civic programs and civic art matters including public art. The Committee will also serve as a public engagement tool for the Culture and Economic Development Task Force.

The proposed role of the Arts Advisory Committee includes the following five (5) functional streams:

1. Arts and Theatre Strategy Implementation - to provide advice and support regarding the implementation of the Arts Strategy, Theatre Strategy and other related Council adopted Strategic Plans.
2. Public Art Policy and Public Art Plan Implementation - to provide advice and support regarding the implementation of the Public Art Policy and Public Art Plan.
3. Equity - to advise on strategies for ongoing and meaningful inclusion, representation of diverse voices and to ensure equity in arts-related plans, policies and opportunities.
4. Arts Development – to provide a voice for the broad needs of the arts community to inform the City’s strategic policies and land use initiatives as required.
5. Engagement and Audience Development - to provide advice and support to staff in engagement and audience development initiatives; to serve as a public engagement platform for the Culture and Economic Development Task Force.

Desired Skills for Membership

Following are the proposed skills for membership:

- Arts expertise/experience including Public Art;
- Community engagement;
- A demonstrated commitment to innovation and an ability to serve as a change agent and champion of the arts;
- Broad interest in creativity and the arts.

Through recruitment processes, staff will seek representation from BIPOC artists and community members and strive to reflect a diversity of lived experience.

Membership

The proposed Committee membership is as follows:

- City Council representative (1)
- ACNW representative (1)
- Education sector representative (1)
- Artists – New Westminster-based (4)*
- Artists – Other (1)*
- Local NFP Arts Sector representative (2)
- Arts Professional (1)
- Urban designers, architects, landscape architects (2)
- Interested community members including youth (3)

*In alignment with the new, more inclusive definition developed by the Canada Council for the Arts, an artist has specialized training in their artistic field (not necessarily in academic institutions), is recognized as a professional by their peers (artists working in the same artistic tradition) and has a history of public presentation or publication. In order to support the function of the Committee, it is important to ensure that we engage artists with Public Art experience as well as artists from a variety of other disciplines including visual, performing arts, literary and multidisciplinary practice.

Staff Liaison(s)

Staff liaisons for the Committee would be as follows:

- Manager, Community Arts and Theatre
- Public and Community Art Coordinator
- Committee Clerk, Legislative Services

Other staff liaisons will be brought in as needed based on agenda items.

NEXT STEPS

Following review with the Arts Commission and PAAC, staff will develop a draft Terms of Reference and Implementation Plan for Council's review and endorsement.