



ARTS AND CULTURE POLICY COUNCIL

MINUTES

OCTOBER 6, 2015

A meeting of the Arts and Culture Policy Council was held on Tuesday, October 6, 2015, at 5 pm, in the Business Centre Meeting Room, Second Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

PRESENT: Donna Spencer, Chair
Barb Clausen
Terry Hunter
Sharman King
Melody Ma*
Katherine McManus
Esther Rausenberg, Co-Vice-Chair
Wendy Soobis
Eric Szeto
Marcus Youssef

ABSENT: Norman Armour (Leave of Absence)
Sean Bickerton (Leave of Absence)
Paddy Macleod, Co-Vice-Chair (Leave of Absence)
Mitra Mansour (Sick Leave)
Nigel Prince (Leave of Absence)

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Elizabeth Ball, City of Vancouver
Councillor Heather Deal, City of Vancouver
Trustee Mike Lombardi, Vancouver School Board
Gracen Chungath, Assistant Director, Cultural Services
Richard Newirth, Managing Director, Cultural Services
Marg Specht, Director of Special Projects, Community Services

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Esther Rausenberg
SECONDED by Wendy Soobis

THAT the Arts and Culture Policy Council approve leaves of absence for Norman Armour, Sean Bickerton, Paddy Macleod and Nigel Prince for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Melody Ma absent for the vote)

Approval of Minutes - July 14, 2015

MOVED by Wendy Soobis
SECONDED by Esther Rausenberg

THAT the Arts and Culture Policy Council approve the minutes from the meeting held July 14, 2015, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Melody Ma absent for the vote)

1. Business arising from the Minutes of July 14, 2015

None

2. Report Back - Cultural Grants Allocations

Cherryl Masters, Cultural Planner, Grants, Awards and Support Programs, presented an overview on Cultural Grant Allocations and a new Program Framework, which included a review of recommendations to seek Council's approval of additional grants, further evolution of the framework and next steps. Ms. Masters, along with the Staff Liaison, also responded to questions.

In discussion, members expressed support for ACPC's involvement. The Chair suggested discussion on participation in the review process and public consultation be referred to the next working session on November 24, 2015.

3. Arts and Culture Policy Council - Liaison Updates

The following ACPC liaisons provided updates and responded to questions:

- Councillor Elizabeth Ball
 - Vancouver Art Gallery's design concept for the new building; and
 - Gallery Gachet funding issues.
- Councillor Heather Deal, updates included:
 - Vancouver Art Gallery's design concept for the new building; recommended ACPC members visit the gallery to view the model and comment on the design;
 - Arts Event Licence Pilot Program has been referred to public hearing; staff are seeking approval to expand the program and make it permanent;
 - Home and Away public art project at Empire Field has been approved by the Park Board;
 - Davie Village Plaza (Jim Deva) design concept has been approved by Council; and
 - Gallery Gachet funding issues.
- Trustee Mike Lombardi, updates included:
 - funding issues;
 - Artist in Residence Program;
 - Green Thumb Players - School House Project; and
 - new Student Art Council.

- the Staff Liaison
 - staff updates in Cultural Services.

- Civic Theatres (VCT) - Wendy Soobis
 - RFP issued in August for the operation of the 2,800 square foot restaurant on the QET plaza. Deadline for proposals is October 19, 2015;
 - Theatre revitalization projects ongoing; primary goal to elevate the patron/user experience and stabilize the theatres' revenue base; projects completed in 2015 include:
 - upgraded booking system;
 - launch of re-branding and website development initiative;
 - capital improvements to theatre technology;
 - introduction of new not-for-profit rates to encourage more diverse use of venues; and
 - revised revenue-generating contracts, i.e. parking, food and beverage.

In response to a question regarding the city-driven needs assessment study of spaces that is currently underway, Ms. Soobis clarified that VCT is leading this study, and that VCT Director Sandra Gajic is the Project Manager working with an external consultant. Ms. Soobis will follow up on the status of the study and report back to the ACPC at the next meeting.

4. Report from the Chair

The Chair encouraged members to attend the Budget 2016 Workshop. The workshop will be held on Monday, October 26th, from 6 to 8 pm in the Town Hall.

5. Membership diversity within the ACPC

The Staff Liaison suggested members think of ways to bring more diversity to the ACPC, such as outreach through the sub-committees.

The Chair suggested inviting a member from the Urban Aboriginal People's Advisory Committee to a future meeting to seek input on the aboriginal art community.

6. Report Back:

a) Community Outreach Sub-committee

Marcus Youssef provided a brief update which included a review of objectives, membership and event timelines and, along with the Staff Liaison, responded to questions.

In discussion, the Sub-committee Chairs agreed to provide brief written reports in advance of future meetings. There was also a brief discussion on the recent funding cut to Gallery Gachet and it was agreed that Terry Hunter write a letter of support to the gallery for the Chair's signature.

MOVED by Esther Rausenberg
SECONDED by Katherine McManus

THAT the Arts and Culture Policy Council write a letter of support to the Chair of the Board for Gallery Gachet and copy Vancouver City Council.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b) Spaces Sub-committee

Katherine McManus provided a brief verbal report which included an update on ACPC's desire to be consulted as part of the cultural infrastructure grant review and responded to questions.

c) Strategic Liaison Sub-committee

The Chair provided a brief verbal report.

In discussion, concern was raised that arts and culture is not sufficiently reflected in major City policies and initiatives. Councillors Ball and Deal suggested the ACPC write a letter to their attention and highlight those concerns.

MOVED by Barb Clausen
SECONDED by Esther Rausenberg

THAT the Chair of the Arts and Culture Policy Council write a letter to Councillors Ball and Deal requesting clarification and direction on how Cultural Services staff and the Arts and Cultural Policy Council can ensure arts and culture is integrated into major citywide policies such as the Greenest City Action Plan, the Economic Action Strategy and the Healthy City Strategy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d) Terms of Reference for subcommittees

The Staff Liaison suggested the Sub-committee Chairs review the ACPC's Terms of Reference for consistency in format and content.

7. Discussion regarding False Creek Flats

The Staff Liaison provided an update on the arts component.

In discussion, Esther Rausenberg noted the arts component is under represented given the percentage of economic activities in the area and suggested members forward any recommendations to address the matter.

8. Review of 2016 meeting dates

Members agreed to move the regular meetings and working sessions to the third Thursday each month in order to accommodate schedules, and that the first regular meeting be held January 26, 2016.

The Meeting Coordinator will finalize and distribute the 2016 meeting schedule.

9. New Business

The Chair reminded members that the next working session will be held November 24, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Marcus Youssef
SECONDED by Esther Rausenberg

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting:

DATE: Tuesday, January 26, 2016
TIME: 5 pm
PLACE: Committee Room No. 1
Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 7:05 pm.

* * * * *