



PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

MINUTES

OCTOBER 15, 2012

A meeting of the Public Art Committee was held on Monday, October 15, 2012, at 4:30 pm, in Committee Room No. 1, Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

PRESENT: Rachel Lafo, Chair
Annie Li
Mitra Mansour*
Richard Tetrault, Vice-Chair
Julien Thomas
Renee Van Halm

ABSENT: Naveen Girn (Leave of Absence)
Hugh Ker

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Heather Deal, City of Vancouver
Karen Henry, Cultural Planner, Public Art, Planning and
Facilities Development, Cultural Services
Bryan Newson, Public Art Program Manager, Cultural
Services/Staff Liaison

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Pat Boomhower, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Julien Thomas
SECONDED by Richard Tetrault

THAT the Public Art Committee approve the following Leaves of Absence:

- Naveen Girn for this meeting;
- Annie Li for the meeting on November 19, 2012.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Mitra Mansour absent for the vote)

Approval of Minutes

The Chair highlighted meeting procedures noted at the Committee Chair training she recently attended, which was provided by the City Clerk's Office.

The Committee clarified the extent of discussion detail for standard minutes. The Vice-Chair requested the topic of note-taking be placed on a future agenda.

MOVED by Renee Van Halm
SECONDED by Richard Tetrault

THAT the Public Art Committee approve the minutes from the meeting held on September 10, 2012, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Mitra Mansour absent for the vote)

1. Westbank Projects Development - Main Street

Reid Shier, Consultant, and Christiane Cottin, W.T. Leung Architects Inc., presented a detailed Public Art Plan for Westbank's mixed-use high-rise development located at 601 - 627 Main Street in Chinatown and noted the area's merchantile and neon sign history (*Main & Keefer Detailed Public Art Plan dated October 11, 2012, distributed - on file*).

Councillor Deal advised that the proposed development went before the Heritage Commission and one of City Council's public art contexts was the acknowledgement of history.

Discussion regarding building on the west side of Main Street and south side of Keefer Street included:

- potential for a neon piece on the rise of the building
- activation and vibrancy of the street front and how art is conveyed
- cultural aspects in the historic neighbourhood
- community outreach and panel selection
- selection process and timing for engineering art work
- budget calculations.

MOVED by Renee Van Halm
SECONDED by Annie Li

THAT the Public Art Committee (PAC) approve the Detailed Public Art Plan for the development at 611 Main Street (at Keefer Street), as presented at the October 15, 2012, PAC meeting with a request that consideration be given to the following:

- a) the importance of ground level activation
- b) the importance of cultural sensitively; and

FURTHER THAT the Artist Selection Panel include someone from the Chinatown cultural community.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. The Exchange: 475 Howe Street/1133 Melville Street

Jan Ballard, Public Art Consultant, and Daniel Hawreluk, Architect, Iredale Group Architecture, presented a detailed Public Art Plan for a redevelopment which encompasses the former Stock Exchange building at 475 Howe Street and outlined the four pillar approach for project design (*"The Exchange Detailed Public Art Plan" dated October 5, 2012, distributed - on file*).

Discussion regarding the two public art opportunities for the proposed high-rise office building included:

- sustainability goals and heritage components
- one location for a design complimenting a large vertical garden
- another location by the entrance and louvered screen
- artist selection process, panel, and budget
- mentorship and issue that projects often require previous experience.

MOVED by Renee Van Halm
SECONDED by Mitra Mansour

THAT the Public Art Committee (PAC) approve the Detailed Public Art Plan for the redevelopment at 475 Howe (1133 Melville St) ("The Exchange" - Swissreal Group Canada Credit Suisse AG Development), as presented at the October 15, 2012, PAC meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Restructuring Public Art Funding

Presentation was postponed. Staff Liaison gave a brief update on the status of discussions on restructuring of the public art program and responded to questions.

Councillor Deal provided an update on the *Density Bank*.

4. Urban Sculpture Parks

Rachel Lafo presented a visual tour of the following urban (and suburban) sculpture parks and noted that some are associated with museums and others are sponsored by city agencies, public organizations and private foundations. Examples include parks and gardens with both permanent art works and temporary installations.

- DeCordova Sculpture Park + Museum, Lincoln, Ma - www.decordova.org
- Millennium Park, Chicago- www.millenniumpark.org
- New York City:
 - sculpture installations on Broadway sponsored by the NYC Dept. of Parks & Recreation, The Broadway Mall Association
 - sculpture installations on Park Avenue sponsored by the Art Production Fund (APF) and others
 - installations sponsored by the Public Art Fund - www.publicartfund.org
 - installations sponsored by the Madison Square Park Conservancy - www.madisonsquarepark.org/
 - The High Line - www.thehighline.org/
- Socrates Sculpture Park, Long Island City - www.socratessculpturepark.org/

- Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, Minnesota - developed by the Walker Art Center - garden.walkerart.org/
- CityGarden, St. Louis, Missouri - www.citygardenstl.org/
- Montreal Museum of Fine Arts outdoor sculpture garden - www.mbam.qc.ca/en/jardin-de-sculptures
- Toronto Sculpture Garden - www.torontosculpturegarden.com/

Discussion followed regarding local designation of parkland, industrial areas, accessibility as a destination, public-private partnerships, and temporary installations.

5. New Business

(a) Project: A False Creek

For information, Karen Henry, Cultural Planner, noted there was a CKNW radio show that reviewed the project “A False Creek” and asked whether public art was a good expenditure of city funds during a time of cutbacks.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Renee Van Halm
SECONDED by Richard Tetrault

THAT the Public Art Committee meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting:

DATE: November 19, 2012
TIME: 4:30 pm
PLACE: Committee Room No. 1
Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 6:28 pm

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