



## PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

### MINUTES



JANUARY 16, 2012

A meeting of the Public Art Committee was held on Monday, January 16, 2012, at 4:30 pm, in Committee Room No. 1, Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

- PRESENT:** Rachel Lafo, Vice-Chair  
Elissa Cristall  
James Fletcher  
Sita Kumar  
Christopher Little  
Richard Tetrault
- ABSENT:** Patrick Prinster, Chair (Leave of Absence)  
Heather Shields (Leave of Absence)
- ALSO PRESENT:** Marcia Belluce, Cultural Planner, Public Art, Planning & Facilities Development  
Karen Henry, Cultural Planner, Public Art, Planning & Facilities Development  
Bryan Newson, Public Art Program Manager/Staff Liaison  
Jil Weaving, Park Board Liaison
- CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator

#### Leave of Absence Requests

Leaves of absence were approved for Patrick Prinster and Heather Shields for this meeting.

Leaves of absence were also approved as follows:

- Rachel Lafo for the March meeting;
- Sita Kumar for the April meeting; and
- James Fletcher for the June meeting.

#### Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on December 12, 2011, were approved as amended on page 3, Item 3, third paragraph: the word "Fence" should read "Fenced".

#### VARY AGENDA

The committee agreed to vary the agenda in order to consider Item 3 first. For ease of reference, the minutes are recorded in numerical order.

## 1. 104 - 150 East First Avenue—Cressey Development's Meccanica

Jan Ballard and Will Ballard, consultants, presented a Detailed Public Art Plan (*on file*) for a new mixed-use development at 104 - 150 East First Avenue and responded to questions.

Members discussed the timeline and requested staff send the Open Call to Artists (LOI) out on the Public Art listserv.

MOVED by Elissa Cristall  
SECONDED by Sita Kumar

THAT the Public Art Committee approve the Detailed Public Art Plan for 104 - 150 East First Avenue ("Meccanica" - Cressey Development), as presented at its meeting on January 16, 2012;

FURTHER THAT Jan Ballard be invited to a future meeting to report on the results of the artist competition.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## 2. A-Maze-ing Laughter

Vancouver Biennale has asked that Yue Minjun's A-Maze-ing Laughter remain at its present location in the triangle at Morton Park in English Bay on a long-term basis. The Biennale's intent is to find a buyer to purchase the work and donate it to the Biennale Foundation. The Biennale would then leave the work at that site as a long-term loan to the City. In advance of final arrangements that address this request, and to accommodate the Biennale's fundraising efforts, the Park Board and Biennale have asked the Public Art Committee to recommend on the long-term placement of the artwork (*Memorandum dated January 11, 2012, on file*).

Accordingly, Miriam Blume, Vancouver Biennale, and Jill Weaving, Park Board Liaison, provided background on Yue Minjun's A-Maze-ing Laughter, sought the committee's approval for long-term placement of it and other Biennale artworks at civic sites, and responded to questions (*information on Shengtian Zheng, Curator, was distributed - on file*). Mss. Blume and Weaving, along with Barry Mowatt, Founder and President, Vancouver Biennale, also responded to questions.

During discussion points raised included the following:

- suggest striking a sub-committee to review and recommend policy for long-term loans of public art offered to the City;
- why not a potential gift to the City rather than the Biennale Foundation?;
- consider moving the artwork to another location; find other audiences in the city; and
- improve accessibility to the artwork.

The Vice-Chair, Mr. Fletcher and Ms. Kumar volunteered to participate on the sub-committee.

MOVED by Christopher Little  
SECONDED by Richard Tetrault

THAT the Public Art Committee strongly supports that Yue Minjun's *A-Maze-ing Laughter* remain at its present site at Morton Park in English Bay on a basis consistent with the arrangements eventually agreed to between the City and Park Board for the long-term placement of it and other Biennale artworks at civic sites.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### 3. Civic Projects Update

Councillor Deal provided a brief overview of the public consultation process for the new civic arts advisory committee and, along with Bryan Newson, Staff Liaison, responded to questions.

In a brief discussion regarding applications for the Public Art Committee, Mr. Newson encouraged members to re-apply to ensure continuity.

### 4. Other Business

#### a) Geyser for Hillcrest Park

Karen Henry briefly reviewed the Detailed Design Summary for the Geyser at Hillcrest Park (*on file*), noting installation will be in March or April of this year, and responded to questions.

#### Next Meeting:

DATE: Monday, February 13, 2012  
TIME: 4:30 pm  
PLACE: Committee Room No. 1  
Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 6:39 pm.

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