



PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

MINUTES

June 17, 2019

A meeting of the Public Art Committee was held on Monday, June 17, 2019, at 5:08 pm, in the Business Centre Meeting Room, Second Floor, City Hall.

PRESENT: Monique Fouquet, Vice-Chair
Noel Best
Cathy Busby
Andy Croft
Debra Rolfe
David MacWilliam

ABSENT: Brenda Crabtree (Leave of Absence)
Laiwan (Leave of Absence)
Marisa Sanchez (Leave of Absence)

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Kirby-Yung, Council Liaison
Eric Fredericksen, Head of the Public Art Program,
Cultural Services
Karen Henry, Public Art Planner, Cultural Services,
Staff Liaison
Tamara Tosoff, Planning Assistant, Cultural Services
Julia Hulbert, Arts + Culture Planner, Arts, Culture and
Engagement, Park Board

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Denise Swanston, Meeting Coordinator

WELCOME

The Chair acknowledged we are on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tseil-Waututh Nations.

Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by David MacWilliam
SECONDED by Cathy Busby

THAT the Public Art Committee approve leaves of absence for Brenda Crabtree, Laiwan and Marisa Sanchez for this meeting.

FURTHER THAT the Public Art Committee approve a leave of absence for Noel Best for the July 15, 2019, meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Cathy Busby
SECONDED by David MacWilliam

THAT the Public Art Committee approve the Minutes from the meeting of April 15, 2019, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Appointment to Arts and Culture Advisory Committee

MOVED by Andy Croft
SECONDED by David MacWilliam

THAT the Public Art Committee appoint Debra Rolfe as the Public Art Committee liaison to the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Civic Updates

Eric Fredericksen, Head of the Public Art Program, and Karen Henry, staff liaison, provided updates on the Artist Initiated Call, noting that staff will report back as developments occur.

Eric informed the Committee that the Vancouver Biennale has proposed exploring the donation of several artworks to the City and asked the Committee to consider reviewing potential donations in advance of a formal donation proposal. It was noted that any donation to the City would need to include funds for maintenance and that formal acceptance of any donation would be subject to successful negotiation of a donation agreement.

Karen provided updates on following art installations:

- Musqueam artist-designed crosswalk in Marpole by Robyn Sparrow
- *The Wall* by Deanna Bowen
- Update on *Spinning Chandelier* by Rodney Graham

3. Larco – Arbutus Centre Blocks C & D (DPAP)

Bayan Ferzandi and Christina Hirukawa of Expanded Field presented the Detailed Public Art Plan for blocks C and D of the Arbutus Centre development. The Preliminary Public Art Plan (PPAP) was first introduced to the PAC on February 11, 2019.

The Consultants updated the Committee that the amended proposal emphasizes socially-engaged artwork and involves community stakeholders throughout the process. The consultants provided a brief overview of changes from the initial proposal and noted the budget can be adjusted to support either a local or international artist, but initial focus is on regional artists.

A question arose regarding the appropriateness of the budget for the scale of the site; the consultants felt the budget was adequate and could be adapted through size and scope of the project. LARCO will remain on site and be responsible for maintenance.

* * * * *

The Committee agreed to deal with Item 5 prior to moving on to Item 4

For ease of reference these Minutes are recorded in chronological order.

* * * * *

5. Review and Motions

In workshop format, the Committee discussed the Larco Arbutus Centre Detailed Public Art Plan (DPAP). The Committee appreciated the summary document, but still would have liked the complete DPAP to reference at the meeting. The Committee felt that there was no clear vision for the site, but also recognize the importance in not being too prescriptive. There was a comment that images in the document should be credited and when used as examples should include details of the work such as budget, date, place, scale.

Although the Committee appreciated the response to their prior concerns around public engagement, the consultants need to integrate this new emphasis into the plan and provide clarity on expectations of socially-engaged process and *how* they were going to engage the public.

MOVED by David MacWilliam
SECONDED by Cathy Busby

THAT the Public Art Committee approve the Larco – Arbutus Centre Blocks C & D (DPAP), as presented at this meeting on June 17, 2019, pending inclusion of the socially-engaged process as noted in the presentation, to the satisfaction of staff.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Private Development Program Review and Discussion

Eric and Karen provided a summary of the origin of the Private Development Program Review. The review is to determine if changes are needed at the by-law level or if changes can simply be made by staff. Eric noted early directions will be presented to Council in September and the review will hopefully wrap-up by early 2020.

Eric reviewed the Private Development Public Art Policy Review document distributed to the Committee (copy on file) and summarized the proposed problem statement.

Committee members provided the following feedback on the draft document:

Proposed problem statement:

- Seems to set up a predetermined answer.
- Too specific and seems to preclude certain works of art or artists.
- Worries that the statement tells artist what their art is expected to be; part of the role of art is to challenge prescriptions. Private developers don't have those same interests and are the ones who hire the art consultants.
 - Important to share the City's values, but not in a prescriptive manner.
- Consultants could be charged with bridging expectations of City and the developer.
- Depending on outcome of review, could inform the city-wide plan.
 - Also an opportunity to look at distribution of artwork across the city in different neighbourhoods.

Goal 1: Ensure that artists and their working approaches are at the centre of all public art opportunities.

- Focus on artist-centered approaches will result in best art pieces
- Important to recognize that artworks should not be expected to respond to the City's list of values.

Goal 2: Align public art planning for new developments with the plans, priorities and values of the City and the Public Art Program.

- What are the mechanisms?
- Clarification needed for who these directions are for (e.g. Private developers? Art consultants? Artist? Committee? Staff?)
- Instead of "aligning" values, perhaps these values "inform" and provide context for plans?
- Need to be clear that these values are for the developer and planning and not the artwork.

Goal 3: Diversify art opportunities and the breadth of representation of artists and other professionals.

- Seem to always have same limited pool of art consultants.
- Without proper budget or timeframe, it seems unreasonable to expect artists to complete a project and mentor at same time.
 - Eric noted the mentoring doesn't need to be restricted to the artist (e.g. could be consultant).
- Budgets seem to be getting larger and that in itself could create inclination to choose experienced artists.
 - Larger budgets could also include project management options for less experienced artists.
- What are the requirements we look for in an art consultant as it's not a regulated profession?

Goal 4: Ensure that the public is informed and stakeholders are engaged in public art planning and commissioning.

- Require that consultants identify stakeholders in the plan.

Goal 5: Review maintenance considerations and planning to support long-term viability of artworks.

- Committee suggested exploration of temporary projects and other impermanent forms of art.

- Staff noted that the goal is to encourage long-term viability of public art, and end of life contract requests would be vetted by staff and the Committee.

6. New Business

Karen advised that she will inform the Committee as to when the next Mural Subcommittee meeting will be held.

Committee members noted they would appreciate receiving follow-ups on the status of and/or completion of art pieces that the Committee approves.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Andy Croft
SECONDED by David MacWilliams

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting:

DATE: Monday, July 15, 2019
TIME: 5 pm
PLACE: Business Centre Meeting Room
Second Floor, Vancouver City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 7:04 pm.

* * * * *