

Minutes: The Blue Mountains Public Art Evaluation Committee

MEETING DATE: December 1, 2011
MEETING TIME: 1:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Building Meeting Room
PREPARED BY: Lisa Kidd, Committee Secretary

A. Call to Order by Chair

- Chair Barbara Hector called the meeting to order with all members in attendance.
- Approval of Agenda:

Moved by: Peter Tollefsen Seconded by: Adriene Veninger

THAT the Agenda of December 1, 2011 be adopted as circulated, the Recording Secretary noting "Committee Terms of Reference" be added as requested by Committee Member Peter Tollefsen.

- No member declared a pecuniary interest with any matter as listed on the Agenda.
- Approval of Minutes of November 10, 2011:

Moved by: Carol Cooley Seconded by: Peter Tollefsen

That the minutes of November 10, 2011 be approved with noted revisions.

B. Deputations/Presentations

None.

C. Staff Reports**Committee Terms of Reference (Addition to Agenda)**

Peter Tollefsen noted that the Public Art Evaluation Committee shall be responsible for the following:

- Make recommendations to Council on the acquisition, safe-keeping, and de-accessioning of public art;
- Draft a permanent policy for the acquisition, safe-keeping, and de-accessioning of public art, to be brought before Council for review and consideration within twelve months of enactment of this interim policy;
- Create a Committee Terms of Reference to be brought before Council for review and consideration, within twelve months of enactment of this interim policy; and

- Meet bi-monthly, or at the request of Council or the Staff Designate.

Peter then noted it was important for the Committee to continue in this vein and that should the Committee wish to change the Terms of Reference it could be considered as part of review of the policy.

Adriene Veninger then noted that as the Committee proceeds, the Committee will likely have a better understanding as to how the policy should change to better reflect the needs of the corporation and community.

Carol Cooley then noted that the Committee should consider bringing forward a revised draft policy to Council within the next six months.

Adriene Veninger then noted that while she has an appreciation of the current permanent art collection which the Town currently holds she noted that the Town may wish to consider temporary art for display, but emphasize that such program should not compete with The Blue Mountains Public Library Gallery.

She then noted that the Committee will be in a position to address this as it moves forward with a review of the Terms of Reference.

Chair Barbara Hector then noted that as per the Terms of Reference the role of the Committee is to be a conduit between donor and elected officials, making recommendations as deemed appropriate by the Committee.

All Committee members agreed.

The Committee then questioned the original purpose of the policy, asking the Recording Secretary for clarification. Lisa noted that the intent was to develop a way for Council to receive recommendations from a Committee of Council for the acquisition, safe-keeping and de-accessioning of public art.

Peter Tollefsen then noted that the Committee may wish to consider how public art plays a role in the Community Improvement Plan and its vision for the community.

Adriene Veninger then noted that future acquisition needs funds and at this time there is no budget. She then noted that Committee may wish to consider ways to have revenue available.

Peter Tollefsen then asked if the Committee could make recommendations under an interim policy.

Carol Cooley then replied yes.

The Committee then dealt with the following Resolution:

That Staff connect with the Donor as to the terms and conditions of the art and its safe-keeping.

Moved by: Adriene Veninger Seconded by: Peter Tollefsen

C.3 Location for Bill Hartman Paintings (3)

The Chair questioned if the Hartman Paintings were a permanent collection. The Recording Secretary then noted yes.

Adriene Veninger then questioned if permanent art could be rotated throughout the building. Carol Cooley then noted yes.

Carol Cooley then suggested that the "Tall Ships" Painting go in front of the Building and By-law Services Desk, with approval from the Department Manager.

Carol Cooley then suggested that the two smaller Hartman paintings would not be appropriate for the Committee Room and that the Committee Room required a painting of significant size.

Adriene Veninger then asked if all recommendations would go to Council. The Recording Secretary then noted yes, based on the current interim policy.

Peter Tollefsen then added that it would be valuable for the minutes to go to Council for information and for relevant recommendations.

The Committee then dealt with the following Resolution:

That the Hartman "Farm Landscape" Painting be displayed on the West Wall of the Building Meeting Room; and

That the Hartman "Tall Ships" Painting be displayed on the wall directly in front of the Building and By-law Services Desk, behind the front counter.

Moved by: Carol Cooley Seconded by: Adriene Veninger

C.4 David Oates Collection

The Recording Secretary noted that Mayor Anderson was in contact with the Heirs of Mr. Oates to discuss the optimal location of the Oates Collection. The Recording Secretary then noted that she would update the Committee as new information became available.

The Committee then dealt with the following Resolution:

That the Committee receive the David Oates Collection update for information purposes and that no action be required at this time.

Moved by: Carol Cooley

Seconded by: Barbara Hector.

D. Correspondence

None.

E. New Business

Carol Cooley noted that the new business noted on the agenda requires significant time for discussion.

Adriene Veninger then suggested that the Committee discuss a portion of the New Business to allow the Committee to reflect for future discussion.

Chair Barbara Hector then noted that she is in favour of lended art as opposed to donated art.

Peter Tollefsen then noted that the advantage would be that lended art is likely to be local art.

Adriene Veninger then noted that the Committee needs to consider the extent to which the Town can house permanent collections and therefore the Committee might wish to consider temporary art or a lending program.

Adriene Veninger then noted that donations should not conflict with the library program and that donated art not be considered a “themed showing” but rather an overall representation of the region’s art.

Peter Tollefsen then thanked Adriene Veninger for the original idea, noting that it was a well-thought-out plan. Peter then suggested that a report with respect to this type of program should go to Council.

Chair Barbara Hector then questioned what would replace lended art if it sold during the display period, asking if it would be replaced. She then added that the Committee should not deal with the sale of art, which would be in conflict with the Library gallery.

Adriene Veninger then noted the lending program should offer information about the art, artist, artist website but no information as to the value or sale price of the art, noting that that Town should not be involved in the sale of art.

Carol Cooley then suggested that a program description would be needed, including a mission statement identifying the purpose of a lending program.

Adriene Veninger then noted that the program would need to be juried.

Carol Cooley then noted that a lending program is new, and different from the intent of the original policy.

Adriene Veninger then noted that the lending program may also give way to the permanent acquisition of work.

Adriene Veninger then noted that we are not a museum and we do not have the facilities to house a lot of permanent art.

The Committee then dealt with the following Resolution:

That the Committee organize a report to go to Council as early as the new year with Peter Tollefsen taking a lead on the program report, and distributing a draft report to the Committee as soon as possible.

Moved by: Barbara Hector

Seconded by: Adriene Veninger

F. Adjournment

Recommended (Move, second)

That this meeting does now adjourn at 3:00 p.m. to meet again January 5, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Committee Room, or at the call of the Chair.

Moved by:

Peter Tollefsen

Seconded by:

Barbara Hector