

Minutes: Public Art Committee



MEETING DATE: February 5, 2015
MEETING TIME: 10:00 a.m.
LOCATION: Committee Room
PREPARED BY: Karen Hilgendorf,
Executive Assistant

A. Call to Order

- Chair, Barb Hector called the meeting to order with all members in attendance.

- **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Peter Tollefsen

Seconded by: Adriene Venninger

THAT the Agenda of February 5, 2015 be approved as circulated, including any items added to the Agenda. Carried.

- **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof**

None declared.

- **Previous Minutes**

Moved by: Adriene Venninger

Seconded by: Peter Tollefsen

THAT the Public Art Committee minutes of January 15, 2015 be adopted as circulated, including any revisions to be made. Carried

B. New and Unfinished business

B.1 Public Art Committee – Council Term 2014 – 2018

Barb Hector extended a welcome to returning committee members Adriene Venninger and Peter Tollefsen and new committee member, Hazel Milne.

Committee members provided Hazel with an overview of the committee's work, projects they have participated in and upcoming projects. Areas covered included the development of the Public Art Policy, the Municipal Art Program initiated to bring art into Town Hall to showcase the work of regional artists in public and semi-public locations, the permanent collection, the committee's input and comments as a contributor to the Town's Official Plan enhancements (as related to Section 37 of the Provincial Planning Act) and Public Art. Involvement in upcoming projects in the Waste Diversion Project and the Thornbury Fish Ladder were referenced briefly; both projects are in the early stages. Peter referenced the Oates Collection and the research and inventory of the paintings. A Public Art Committee member will provide representation and a public art perspective, by being invited to sit on a new committee currently being developed to promote a projected targeted at promoting the Thornbury Fish Ladder.

Adriene noted the Public Art Committee is being increasingly recognized for their input, advice and comments noting that staff is now coming to the committee to seek input, assistance and feedback on projects and events.

B.2 Oates Collection

Due to the inability to display the art as originally envisioned, de-accessioning of the on loan collection has been under review. With the inauguration of the Municipal Art Program in 2012, wall space at Town Hall in private and semi-private locations is now used to annually showcase the works of several artists in the region while enhancing the environment of Town hall for employees and visitors. Due to lack of adequate storage facilities for the majority of the Oates collection, it was identified that this does not do the art work justice or promote the Wooden Bridges of Ontario as originally intended. A letter thanking the David J. Oates family for the opportunity to display the collection over the years, and possible de-accessioning options was developed and will be sent to them as executors, on behalf of the Town.

B.3 MAP 2015 – Submission Form

The committee reviewed an additional draft and additional final changes were identified. Once the revisions are completely 50 colour copies of the brochure will be made available to the committee members for distribution to regional art related studios, businesses and artists inviting regional artists to submit their entries for the 2015 Municipal Art Program.

B.4 MAP 2015 – Schedule

The committee reviewed the upcoming meeting and event schedule.

February/March – Promote “Call for Submissions” brochure to invite artists.

March 31 – Deadline for receipt of submission forms and related documents

Thursday, April 9 - Jury selection from submissions

Week of April 13 – Release letters to artists announcing results of the jury and to extend invitation to incoming and outgoing artists to attend the Artist Appreciation Event and Municipal Art Program Exhibit on Thursday, May 7. Committee drafts MAP brochure commentary.

Week of April 20 – Committee completes MAP brochure commentary. Confirm final arrangements for the Artist Appreciation Event and Municipal Art Program Exhibit.

Week of April 27 – MAP brochure - production and printing

Wednesday, May 6 – After-hours “take down” of the 2014 art- in preparation for the Artist Appreciation Event. Committee prepares for the Municipal Art Exhibit on Thursday, May 7 and Friday, May 8.

Thursday, May 7 – Artist Appreciation Event & Municipal Art Program

Exhibit. Set up for Artist Appreciation Event & Municipal Art Program Exhibit.

Committee on hand for out-take of the 2014/15 art and the intake of the 2015/16 art. The formal segment of the event will include an artist welcome with refreshments from 12:00 noon to 12:30 p.m. The committee will extend an invitation to Mayor McKean to attend and to bring greetings to the incoming and outgoing artists. The committee will be on hand for the Municipal Art Exhibit of new works that will be held the afternoon of May 7 until close of business in the atrium of Town Hall.

Friday, May 8 - MAP Exhibit continues during Town Hall hours and closes at end of business at 4:30 p.m. Install of 2014/15 art to follow, upon close of business.

Week of May 11, 2015 – Committee distributes MAP brochures featuring 2015-16 art on display at Town Hall.

Thursday, June 4, 2015 – Public Art Committee Meeting before summer break.

B.5 Town of The Blue Mountains New Official Plan

Peter noted the Public Art Committee took a strong interest in the Town's Official Plan Review process and made a number of submissions. In a November 2013 letter the committee acknowledged a number of changes that had been recommended were implemented. He noted that once change to section B3.3.4.1 New Development requirements where it was requested that a percentage of the value of new buildings (such as 1%) be devoted to public art had not been implemented.

In a 2014 response from the Acting Director of Planning & By-law, the letter updated the committee on the process of preparing the next draft of the Official Plan update. A chart was attached that identified comments on the OP that the Public Art Committee had submitted to the Town and staff's recommendation response. On the point in section B.3.3.4.1 the staff comment was: "The Planning Act does not provide the statutory authority to make such a requirement. Could be included in the Community Improvement Plan policies and through the Site Plan approval process."

In a subsequent letter of October 30, 2014 to the new Director of Planning, Building & By-law, Chair Barb Hector reiterated this information noting the Official Plan was approved by Council in September with no change to section B3.3.4.1 and forwarded to the County of Grey for final approval. It noted that the committee was seeking some advice and guidance on the idea (1% building value for public art) and inquired if there would be a process or opportunity to amend the Community Improvement plan policies and the Site Plan approval process. Peter noted he send a reminder email on January 8, 2015.

Peter provided a copy of a Toronto Star article dated January 17, 2015 wherein it references the use of Section 37 of the Provincial Planning Act that allows for "community benefits agreements" when municipalities can require such things as affordable housing and public art.

C. Adjournment

Moved by: Adriene Venninger

Seconded by: Hazel Milne

THAT this Public Art Committee meeting does now adjourn at 12:05 p.m. to meet again on March 12 at 10:30 a.m., or at the call of the Chair. Carried