

**Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham**

**Minutes**

**January 16, 2023**

**5:00 PM**

**Attendance**

**Board of Directors Present:** Jim Schmidt (Chair), Amin Giga (Treasurer), Carolyn Le Quéré, John Ingram (via phone), Councillor Reid McAlpine, Craig McOuat

**New Members Present (To be endorsed and appointed at the AGM on February 8, 2023):** Connie Leclair, Arpita Surana, Bonnie Leung, Nik Mracic, Al Pickard, Emily Li

**Staff Present:** Niamh O’Laoghaire, Director, Varley Art Gallery; Francesca Dauphinais, Cultural Development Officer, Varley Art Gallery, Hristina Giantsopoulos, Clerk

**Regrets:**, Chris Rickett, Director of Economic Growth, Culture and Entrepreneurship, Lisa Joy-Facey, Carrie Colangelo

<b>Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>1. Call to Order</b>	The Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham meeting convened at 5:07 PM with Jim Schmidt presiding as Chair.
<b>2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest</b>	There were none disclosed.
<b>3. Additions / Changes to the Agenda</b>	<p>The Committee requested that an item be added to the agenda in regards to the endorsement of new members.</p> <p>Moved By: Councillor Reid McAlpine Seconded By: Amin Giga</p> <p>That the following nominations be endorsed by the Board of Directors and endorsed at the Annual General Meeting to be held on February 8, 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Connie Leclair;</li><li>• Emily Li</li><li>• Arpita Surana</li><li>• Al Pickard</li><li>• Bonnie Leung</li><li>• Nik Mracic</li></ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Carried</b></p>

<p><b>4. Approval of Minutes</b></p>	<p>Moved By: Councillor Reid McAlpine          Seconded By: Craig McOuat</p> <p>That the minutes of the Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham meeting held on October 17, 2022, and November 11, 2022 be confirmed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Carried</b></p> <p>The minutes from the December 2022 meeting will be confirmed at the next regular meeting.</p>
<p><b>5. Business Arising from The Minutes</b></p>	<p><b>a) MOU Update</b></p> <p>A Memorandum of Understanding between the Varley Art Gallery and the City that began in 2006 was located. The Committee will continue to try and locate any previous versions. It was suggested that this is a good time to review and update the 2006 document and include the following considerations with the onboarding of new members in the coming weeks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall Committee structure;</li> <li>• Art Acquisition Committee functions;</li> <li>• Length of term;</li> <li>• Changes to the Town of Markham references to the City of Markham;</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul> <p><b>b) Varley Art Gallery 2023 Request for Support</b></p> <p>At the December 12, 2022 meeting, it was identified that the Varley Art Gallery’s 2023 request for support from the Foundation is \$40,000. The Gallery is looking forward to the Foundation’s response in this regard.</p>
<p><b>6. Director’s Report</b></p>	<p>Niamh O’Laoghaire, Director, Varley Art Gallery, provided an overview of the Director’s report which included information on exhibition changeover, public and education programs, upcoming exhibits, programs and rentals. She also noted facility maintenance issues and concerns with time management without a PT communication staff member.</p>
<p><b>7. Development Officer Report</b></p>	<p>Francesca Dauphinais, Cultural Development Officer, provided the Board with an overview of the Development Officer’s Report, which included an overview of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grant Applications             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ontario Trillium Foundation – Resilient Communities Fund                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ \$200,000 over a 24-month period</li> <li>▪ The City is better positioned to be approved for this grant than in previous years due to improved social media components and community reach.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ TD Connected Communities - Arts and Culture</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ \$35,000 annually for 2023 and 2024</li> <li>○ Canada Summer Jobs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Additional full-time staff for summer program support.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>8. Sub-Committee Report</b>	<p><u>Rouge: Varley Gala</u> The Committee indicated that there are no plans at the current time for a gala in 2023 and that the current model is not cost effective. Fran Dauphinais and Al Picard will discuss alternative types of initiatives to generate increased revenue.</p> <p><u>Art Acquisitions Committee</u> There was discussion on the function of this committee and that the gallery cares for the City's art collection that consists of over 1100 pieces. It was requested that there be 3 members appointed to the Art Acquisitions Committee after the AGM and that John Ingram be the Chair.</p> <p><u>Vintages at the Varley</u> There was no update on the Vintages at the Varley.</p> <p><u>Development Committee</u> There was no update from the Development Committee.</p>
<b>9. Financial Report</b>	<p>Amin Giga, Treasurer, presented the Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances as of November 30, 2022.</p> <p>Councillor McAlpine will follow up on a verbal financial commitment by the City in the amount of \$40,000 for 2022, which will have a positive impact to the gallery's 2022 financial position.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the upcoming City budget process and that the City approves the gallery budgets and financial statements and that the focus in 2023 will be to increase revenue.</p> <p>Moved By: Jim Schmidt Seconded By: Craig McOuat</p> <p>That the November 2022 Financial Report presented by Amin Giga be received.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Carried</b></p>
<b>10. New Business</b>	<p>It was suggested that visitors to the gallery be actively tracked to create a contact database and initiate visitor satisfaction surveys for future program development and fundraising initiatives. This item will be investigated further in the coming months.</p>
<b>11. Future Meeting Dates</b>	<p>The next meeting of the Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham will be held on <b>February 20, 2022.</b> A reminder that the Annual General Meeting will take place on <b>February 8, 2023.</b></p>

**12. Adjournment**

That the Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham meeting adjourn at 6:49 PM.

Moved By: Amin Giga

Seconded By: Craig McOuat

**Carried**