

VARLEY- MCKAY ART FOUNDATION OF MARKHAM

Monday, September 17, 2018

Varley Art Gallery

5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Attendance:

Board of Directors Present: Craig McOuat, *Chair*, Edie Yeomans, John Ingram, Howard A. Back, Terrence A. Pochmurski, Sammy Lee

Staff: Niamh O’Laoghaire, *Director, Varley Art Gallery*, Francesca Dauphinais, *Cultural Development Officer*, and Anna Lee, *Committee Coordinator*

Regrets: Amin Giga, Matthew Reilly, Santo Natale, Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

Item	Discussion
1. Call to Order	The Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham convened at 5:15 PM with Craig McOuat presiding as Chair.
2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest	None.
3. Changes or Additions to the Agenda	None.
4. Approval of the Minutes	Moved by Edie Yeomans Seconded by Sammy Lee That the Minutes from the June 11, 2018 Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham Board Meeting be adopted as presented. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>

Item	Discussion
5. Director’s Report	Interviews are taking place to fill two full-time six-month positions made possible by grants received from YCW (Young Canada Works). Public Art - worked with Purchasing Department for RFQ contract for a Public Art Master Plan and project should be underway very soon. There is a need to create a master plan for the next five years to advise on all potential work, consultation, policies and procedures and the role of the committee. The plan needs to interact with other Markham plans and have a clear approval process.

	<p>Exhibitions 2019 – objective is to have more frequent, smaller, shows, along with the major exhibitions. Look at ways to break up the available space for smaller exhibits.</p> <p><i>Witness: Canadian Art of the First World War</i>, the current show, organized and circulated by the Canadian War Museum with one work from our own collection, will be available for viewing until January 6th, 2019. Opening reception is on Sunday, September 30 – city councillors will be present and request for Mayor and MPP to attend have been sent.</p> <p>Many upcoming programs and initiatives (Doors Open Markham, Culture Days, Memorial Ceremony on November 11th workshops, lunch and learns, education initiatives, et. al.). Suggestion of having music/concert at the gallery for patrons while they are appreciating the arts.</p> <p>Attendance has been reasonably steady and summer programs were full all summer.</p> <p>Varley Gallery signage is a continuing effort between the City’s Heritage staff and the Foundation to create a design appropriate for a Heritage District Building.</p> <p>Moved by Edie Yeomans Seconded by Howard A. Back</p> <p>THAT the Director’s Report prepared for the September 17, 2018 meeting of the Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham Board be received as presented.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
<p>6. Development Officer Report</p>	<p>Francesca Dauphinais, Development Officer, shared that the summer camps were very successful, as well as the social event for the summer camp volunteers. Fall programs started today – schedule is being finalized. Implementation of acknowledgement of the summer camp staff, such as volunteer of the week, social media recognition and sending Thank-you cards have been well received.</p> <p>Looking to attract more attendants and volunteers to be able to assist patrons of the gallery. We are hoping to have 6-10 docents.</p> <p>Joshua Kim received The Wallace Joyce Scholarship Award, a \$1,000 bursary created to support students from York Region who are pursuing studies in an art-related field at a post-secondary level. He will be receiving a certificate and ceremonial cheque presentation at the Varley Art Gallery’s Fall Exhibition Opening Reception on September 30th.</p> <p>Rouge Varley Gala – Current sponsorship levels are significantly lower than expected. RBC has turned down sponsorship this year. Board members will reach out to their network for Sponsorship opportunities, as well as ticket sales as this is a fundraiser. Hoping for 300 guests for the event – we need to confirm the numbers and submit the list to the venue to finalize the seating chart. Reminder to the Board members to provide 2 bottles of wine as a donation for the Wine Pull component of the gala.</p> <p>Board of Directors needs more members and more commitment from members.</p> <p>Canada Summer Jobs Grants – we had 4 employees this summer; funding provided for 8 weeks, but we were able to have the employees up to the end of summer with the support of the Board. Received incredible, positive feedback, recommendations for areas to</p>

	<p>improve and how to update the job description to be more concise from the summer employees. Final payment claims were submitted last week to the Government of Canada and we should be receiving around \$15K in returns.</p> <p>The next <i>Vintages at the Varley</i> event will take place on Wednesday, April 17, 2019. The theme is going to be <i>New World Wines</i> (including Canada). Santo Natale has agreed to organize the event. Planning of the event will commence as soon as the gala ends.</p> <p>The work plan for September and October is essentially all Gala and volunteer scheduling.</p>
7. Sub-Committee Reports	<p>a) Art Acquisition Committee No report provided.</p> <p>b) Rouge Gala Committee No report provided.</p> <p>c) Development Committee We need to create a timeline and deadline to plan and network the communities to support the Varley Art Gallery.</p> <p>d) Volunteer Committee No report was provided.</p>
8. Financial Report	Amin Giga will circulate the financial report by email before the next meeting.
9. New Business	<p>Need to have recognition for Bill Withrow (passed away in the Spring). He was a major force in forming the Gallery and served on the board for a great period of time along with being a very important figure in the Canadian art world. This could be in the form of an education fund or scholarship. Ideas and suggestions will be circulated by email.</p> <p>Moved by Howard A. Back Seconded by John Ingram</p> <p>THAT there will be a program or plan created in honour of Bill Withrow from the Board.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
10. Next Meeting Date	The next meeting of the Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham will be held on November 12, 2018, 5:00 p.m. at the Gallery.
11. Adjournment	On a motion from the Board the meeting of The Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham adjourned at 5:56 p.m.