

# MARKHAM PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE ONTARIO ROOM, MARKHAM CIVIC CENTRE

Minutes Meeting No. 4. Wednesday, September 21, 2016 6:00 p.m.

# **PRESENT**

**Members** 

Stephen Lusk (Chair) Taleen Der Haroutiounian Frankie Ip

Adam Keung Alina Tarbhai Jenny Tung

Council

Councillor Alan Ho

Staff

Corinna Ghaznavi, Public Art Coordinator Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Coordinator

# 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Public Art Advisory Committee was called to order at 6:06 pm with Stephen Lusk presiding as Chair.

# 2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None was declared.

# 3. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

The agenda was accepted with the following addition to New Business:

- Update on the donation of the Charity sculpture

# **REGRETS**

Paul Cosburn Rahul Shastri Julie Tiefenbach Ken Wightman

Stephen Chait, Director Culture and Economic

Development

# 4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARKHAM PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON JUNE 8, 2016

It was

Moved by Taleen Der Haroutiounian

Seconded by Jenny Tung

That the minutes of the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee meeting held on June 8, 2016, be approved as presented.

**CARRIED** 

#### 5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

#### Youth Ambassador

Stephen Lusk reported that students of Seneca College and York University had been expected to join the Committee, but none have done so.

#### **Rizal Bronze Bust**

Corinna Ghaznavi reported that Markham staff are waiting to receive from the Filipino Canadian community specific information about the installation of a monument of Dr. Jose P. Rizal in the Boxgrove Community Park.

#### 6. BARKHOUSE PROJECT

Corinna Ghaznavi reported that the project has been completed and the sculpture installed.

#### 7. WAR MEMORIAL

Corinna Ghaznavi reported that the City of Markham obtained a grant from the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program, part of the Government of Canada's celebration of the 150th anniversary of Confederation. The grant is being used to revitalize the cenotaph located at the corner of Highway 48 and Highway 7 and thereby create a gateway to Markham. At its first meeting on June 15, 2016, the five jury members reviewed the submissions for this project and created a short list of five proposals. The jury will reconvene on October 11, 2016, to consider the drawings, renderings, proposed timelines and budget, submitted by the shortlisted artists, and then select the successful proposal; the decision of the jury must be unanimous. Committee members have an open invitation to attend the selection process as non-voting observers and were asked to notify Corinna Ghaznavi if they plan to attend.

Corinna Ghaznavi will bring the jury's recommendation to the Committee at the October 12, 2016 meeting and provide insight into how the jury arrived at its decision. The Committee would then review the selected proposal and make a recommendation to Markham Council to accept or decline the proposed work. If approved, it is expected that the project would be installed by August 2017 to be in place well before Remembrance Day 2017.

# 8. OTHER PUBLIC ART UPDATES

Corinna Ghaznavi reported that Markham staff has negotiated agreements with Remington Group is planning to fund a public art piece on a slip of land near the Remington Group carousel at Birchmount Rd. and Enterprise Blvd. The Remington Group would like to have installed an iconic, prominent art piece announcing downtown Markham. Markham will run a competition for an art piece where the guidelines given to artists will include directions to reflect the desire for a prominent art piece as well as the spirit of downtown. The jury will include a Remington Group representative.

# **Budget**

Corinna Ghaznavi reported that Stephen Chait, Director Culture and Economic Development, is negotiating for public art funding to be included in the Markham budget but in the long term it may be preferred that funding come from external sources.

# Public Art Plan

Corinna Ghaznavi reported that she is working with Markham staff to determine how public art fits in Markham since there is no budget to produce a Public Art Plan. Committee members were encouraged to offer suggestions of where art might be placed that makes sense conceptually and aesthetically.

# Public Realm

Corinna Ghaznavi reported that she is working with Public Realm staff to discuss projects which must be confirmed this year in order to spend the existing funding received in the last fiscal year for public realm projects.

#### Public Art Portal

Corinna Ghaznavi reported that the portal is being developed; two one-minute video clips have been completed. An additional two are being completed. These will all be uploaded together once all of them are ready.

# 9. **NEW BUSINESS**

Stephen Lusk advised that there may be an opportunity for the Committee to partner with York University and the City of Markham in hosting a public art symposium in spring 2017. He will email the document to Committee members and noted that this could be a template for other opportunities.

Corinna Ghaznavi reported that the Remington Group has offered the use of Heritage House as a residency; this may align with Markham's vision of having an artist in residence in consultation with the public art symposium planned for spring 2017.

Corinna Ghaznavi reported that Markham Council has approved the donation of the "Charity" sculpture. Markham staff have requested that the donor provide the engineer's drawings so that they may be reviewed by an independent engineer. The location has been finalized and it was reported that local residents are not happy with the proposed location of the "Charity" sculpture. Corinna Ghaznavi will report this matter to Stephen Chait.

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Corinna Ghaznavi showed pictures of the commemorative monument to William Berczy which has been installed in the square on the northeast corner of Kennedy Road and 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, part of the new development by TACC Developments. Committee members admired the fine detail of the bronze statue. The installation ribbon cutting ceremony will likely be scheduled for spring 2017.

# 15. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Public Art Advisory Committee will be held on October 12, 2016 at 6:00 pm.

# 16. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Adam Keung Seconded by Alina Tarbhai

That the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee adjourn at 7:05 pm.

**CARRIED**