



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

Minutes

Meeting No. 3.

Wednesday, June 8, 2016

6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Members

Stephen Lusk (Chair)
Paul Cosburn
Taleen Der Haroutiounian
Rahul Shastri
Alina Tarbhai
Julie Tiefenbach
Jenny Tung
Ken Wightman

REGRETS

Frankie Ip
Adam Keung
Councillor Alan Ho

Staff

Corinna Ghaznavi, Public Art Coordinator
Stephen Chait, Director Culture and Economic Development
Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Public Art Advisory Committee was called to order at 6:03 pm with Stephen Lusk presiding as Chair.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None was declared.

3. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no changes or additions to the agenda.

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARKHAM PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON APRIL 13, 2016

It was

Moved by Paul Cosburn
Seconded by Taleen Der Haroutiounian

That the minutes of the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee meeting held on April 13, 2016, be approved as presented.

CARRIED

5. NEW DIRECTOR

Corinna Ghaznavi, Public Art Coordinator, reported that Moe Hosseini-Ara had resigned. She introduced Stephen Chait, the newly appointed Director, Culture and Economic Development. Mr. Chait spoke about the tremendous strategic opportunity Markham has now to embrace a new vision and mandate by combining culture and economic development initiatives. He looks forward to working with the Committee.

6. NEW DONATION – RIZAL BRONZE BUST

Corinna Ghaznavi reported that the Filipino Canadian community has proposed to fund the installation of a monument of Dr. Jose P. Rizal in the Boxgrove Community Park, to be located southwest of Boxgrove Bypass and Copper Creek in Markham. The life size monument cast in bronze will face southeast looking at Rizal Avenue across Boxgrove Bypass. The Filipino Canadian community has consulted with Markham staff on the plans for the monument and the installation. The community has selected Ignacio R. Mogado, a well-known artist in the Filipino community, to create the monument.

In cases of donations of artwork to the City of Markham, policy requires that the Varley Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee serve as an arms-length group to review the work. The committee reported that it has approved in principle the donation of the Rizal sculpture.

Committee members questioned the role of the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee in the process of accepting donations of art work, and whether accepting this work would set a precedent. It was reported that Markham is vigilant about what works are recommended to be accepted, and the Committee's mandate is to comment on design and provide advice to Markham Council on whether or not to accept the work. In this particular case, since the design was not presented to the Committee, it may choose to reserve comment. Committee members advised that it would be preferred if the Committee were involved in early screening of the designs of donations of art work.

7. BARKHOUSE PROJECT

Mary Anne Barkhouse was commissioned to create a piece to begin a sculpture path to be located in the park at Toogood Pond. The work is a granite sculpture in the form of a 'bench',

inspired by designs of formal gardens found at European palaces such as Versailles, positioned on either side of a large natural boulder. Around the boulder would be three bronze dogs looking up at a bronze squirrel perched on top of the boulder. The last dog figurine is being created by the foundry and is expected to be completed in the next few weeks. The ribbon cutting is scheduled for July 4, 2016 at 10:00 am.

The Selfie Contest will be announced at the ribbon cutting ceremony. Jenny Tung advised that the Pet Valu store located at Birchmount Rd. and Highway 7 is interested in sponsoring the contest. She will provide the contact details to Corinna Ghaznavi. Committee discussion suggested that future contests be geared to the surrounding community and that consideration be given as to how best to connect with younger audiences.

8. 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. Twenty-six submissions were received in response to the RFP and a jury of five members has been established. At its first meeting on June 15, 2016, the jury members will review the submissions and short list the top five proposals. The artists of the selected proposals are then asked to provide detailed information and mock ups for further review, and receive an honorarium for this. The jury will reconvene, likely in October, to consider the artists' drawings, renderings, proposed timelines and budget, and then select the successful proposal; their decision must be unanimous. Committee members have an open invitation to attend the selection process as non-voting observers.

Corinna Ghaznavi will bring the jury's recommendation to the Committee 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.

Corinna Ghaznavi advised that she has recruited selection committee members whose experience closely matches that of the project, and who have an appreciation for the project scope and what Markham hopes to accomplish via public art. She advised that the jury members are: Katerina Atanassova, Curator of Canadian art at the National Gallery in Ottawa; Marlene Hilton-Moore, artist commissioned to create the Berczy monument; Kim Fullerton of Akimbo Art Promotions and Consulting, writer, curator, entrepreneur; Helen Walters, Markham resident; Stu Kellogg, Veteran's Association member and Markham resident.

9. OTHER PUBLIC ART UPDATES

Corinna Ghaznavi reported that the opening ceremony for the Remington carousel located at Birchmount Rd. and Enterprise Blvd. will take place on June 28, 2016 at 10:30 am.

10. ART SUMMIT SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Stephen Lusk reported that the subcommittee had met to consider options for holding an art summit but had concluded that the Markham Art Council would be better positioned to organize such an event. Stephen Chait advised that there may be an opportunity for the Committee to facilitate a showing of digital art or host a public art symposium and he will invite external representatives of the art community to meet with the Committee.

11. STATUS OF APPROVED BUT NOT FUNDED PROJECTS

Corinna Ghaznavi reported that:

- the bicycle rack project led by the Public Realm Committee was terminated because cost effective options were not available;
- the second sculpture project at the Markham Museum is on hold;
- artwork for the bridge on Birchmount Rd. south of Highway 7 is on hold.

Corinna Ghaznavi distributed a report to the Development Services Committee entitled revision to the Guidelines for the Implementation of Section 37 Benefits and dated May 9, 2016. She advised that asking for voluntary contributions from developers is no longer permissible; private sector funding will only be available from Section 37 funding for developments fewer than four stories.

Corinna Ghaznavi reported that Councillor Collucci is interested in the possibility of commissioning a diverse community-based art work to unveil at the Markham Civic Centre in 2017 as part of celebrations of Canada's 150th anniversary. Corinna Ghaznavi plans to approach local schools to develop a template for this project.

12. GUEST SPEAKERS AND FIELD TRIPS

The Committee agreed it would be beneficial to invite guest speakers to ignite interest in public art among Markham residents.

13. TEMPORARY PUBLIC ART INSTALLATIONS

Committee members discussed the possibility of temporary art installations which would be quicker and less expensive to implement while still presenting art for Markham residents. Other possibilities could include collaboration with the Public Realm Committee for projects such as the Chalk Board project, or with local business, such as Remington, for events such as Nuit Blanche.

14. NEW BUSINESS

Public Art Plan

Committee members enquired about the status of the Public Art Plan. It was reported that a master plan is needed first but planning for the master plan may change now given the new vision and mandate resulting from combining culture and economic development initiatives. Creating the master plan should be a priority and Stephen Chait will report back to the Committee.

Youth Ambassador

Corinna Ghaznavi reported that a student of Seneca College had been expected to join the Committee. She will enquire with other local schools to see if there might be a student who would be interested.

15. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Public Art Advisory Committee will be held on September 14, 2016 at 6:00 pm.

16. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by	Jenny Tung
Seconded by	Taleen Der Haroutiounian

That the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee adjourn at 7:55 pm.

CARRIED