

VARLEY- MCKAY ART FOUNDATION OF MARKHAM

Monday, September 12, 2016

Varley Art Gallery

5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Attendance:

Board of Directors Present: Terrence Pochmurski, Chair, John Ingram, Howard Back , Sammy Lee, , Howard Back, and Craig McQuat

Staff: Stephen Chait, Director, Culture & Economic Development, Niamh O’Laoghaire, Director, Varley Art Gallery, Francesca Dauphinais, Cultural Development Officer, and Laura Gold, Committee Clerk

Observers: Amin Giga, Community Member, Phoebe Lo, Community Member

Regrets: Sid Karsh , Santo Natale, Susan Gray, Beverly Schaeffer and Edie Yeomans

Item	Discussion	Action Item
a. Call to Order	The Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham convened at 5:12 p.m. with Terrence Pochmurski presiding as Chair.	
b. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest	None	
c. Changes or Additions to the Agenda	None	
d. Approval of the Minutes	<p>The approval of the Minutes was deferred, as there was no quorum.</p> <p>It was noted that following resolution was passed by email on July 28, 2016:</p> <p>Motions approved by email on July 28, 2016</p>	

Item	Discussion	Action Item
	<p>Moved by Edith Yeomans Seconded by Terrence Pochmurski</p> <p>That the Board of the Varley McKay Art Foundation approve acquisition of F. H. Varley's <i>Arctic Sketch</i> No. 1 and <i>Arctic Sketch</i> [or Arctic Sketch No. 2] and that it approve the purchase of Arctic Sketch [or Arctic Sketch No. 2] for \$80,000.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	
a. Business Arising from the Minutes	None.	
e. Director's Report	<p>Niamh O'Laoghaire, Director of Varley Art Gallery presented the Director's Report, which included the following:</p> <p>Staff Changes Aprile Bansil, Communications Assistant has taken a full-time position elsewhere. Charlene Lo is the new Varley Communications Assistant, who will begin working the week of September 19, 2016.</p> <p>Board Package A Board Package that was developed to enhance the relationship between the Foundation and the Gallery was circulated to the Directors. Each package contains a Varley Strategic Plan and a copy of the 2006 Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Varley-McKay Art Foundation and the City of Markham.</p> <p>Board Recruitment Gallery Staff provided the Chair with a list of perspective Directors for its consideration. Two of the candidates were in attendance at the Board meeting.</p> <p>Exhibition Program An overview of the exhibition program was provided.</p>	

Item	Discussion	Action Item
	<p><u>Fall 2016</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Visualizing a Culture for Strangers: Chinese Export Paintings from the Nineteenth Century</i> and <i>On Your Mark II: F.H. Varley, Ed Pien, Kate Wilson</i> – ended September 6, 2016 • <i>Jeff Nye: Recovery Rooms</i> and <i>Innovative Spirit: The Prints and Drawings of Pudlo Pudlat</i> - September 24, 2016 to January 8, 2017 • <i>Rock, Water, Tree: Group of Seven works in the Jack MacQuarrie Collection</i>, slated for the Collections Gallery - September 24, 2016 to January 8, 2017 <p>2017 Exhibition plans</p> <p>An exhibition program that will celebrate both the 20th anniversary of the Varley Art Gallery, and the 150th anniversary of Confederation is being planned, which will meet the requirements of the Ontario Arts Council operating grant program.</p> <p>The exhibition of images of children from a major private collection is being postponed to 2018 due to issues with scheduling and with the agreement of the lenders.</p> <p>There are still plans to acknowledge the past, celebrate the present and envision the future through a series of exhibitions entitled <i>Present Perfect Continuous</i>, which is being created to explore ideas, actions and stories that began in the past but resonate in the present. The exhibitions include:</p> <p><u>1. Celebrating F. H. Varley</u> To celebrate its 20th anniversary, the Varley Art Gallery will mount an exhibition celebrating the works by Varley in its holdings.</p> <p><u>2. Celebrating a Markham senior artist</u> In January 2017 there will be an exhibition of the works of senior local artist Paul Fournier.</p> <p><u>3. Celebrating contemporary Markham.</u></p>	

Item	Discussion	Action Item
	<p>There will be an exhibition of the works of XiaoJing Yan, a contemporary artist, of Chinese heritage and resident of Markham.</p> <p>Public Programs and Events A list of Public, Educational and Community events since the last Board meeting was provided to the Board.</p> <p>Request to the Foundation The Foundation was asked to contribute \$21,000 towards a publication, with the working title of <i>Varley: A Twentieth Anniversary</i>. The publication will highlight Kathy McKay's original bequest which has formed the basis of the collection since the 1990s, feature 20 years of acquisitions, acknowledge the role of the Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham in the development of the collection, as well as the many donors who have contributed to its growth. This publication is anticipated to cost \$25,000. The publication supports the goals of the Memorandum of Understanding.</p> <p>Educational Programs An overview of the upcoming educational programs was provided.</p> <p>A copy of the Director's report was circulated with the agenda package.</p> <p><u>Discussion on Request from Foundation</u> The Board discussed the proposed publication "<i>Varley: A Twentieth Anniversary</i>" and the contribution being requested. The Board had the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can the publication be more representative of the community? • Can the publication be in a format that is more engaging to the general public than a museum style publication? • Could the project be improved upon with a greater contribution from the Foundation? • Can the publication be used to promote the Gallery and to strengthen its 	

Item	Discussion	Action Item
	<p>reputation?</p> <p>The Director advised that these types of publications are generally a way of enhancing the credentials of the Gallery. The Board generally supported the idea of a publication and saw it as an opportunity to promote the Gallery, but wanted to discuss the project in greater detail.</p> <p>The Board decided to hold a board meeting on October 17, 2016, to discuss this project in more detail.</p>	
<p>f. Development Officer Report</p>	<p>Francesca Dauphinais, Development Officer provided the development report. Her report included an update on volunteers; the Canada Summer Jobs employees; the Art Auction; the cancellation of the Gallery in White event due to low ticket sales; and her work plan for September 2016. A copy of the report was circulated with the agenda package.</p> <p><u>Fundraising Events</u></p> <p>The Development Officer presented a new model for fundraising. In the past, the Foundation would run multiple fundraising events. The new model proposes that the Foundation focuses on one major event per year. Possibly an art auction combined with a gala. A Director will need to Chair the event and possibly the whole Board will assist with the planning and undertaking of the event.</p> <p>The Board agreed with the idea of having one large event and discussed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approaching York University or Chris Bratty of Remington Group about sponsoring the event or partnering with them in the undertaking of the event • Possibly holding the event at an offsite location, such as Angus Glen Golf Course to address some of limitations presented by holding the event at the Gallery • Inviting different communities in Markham to the event to make it larger and more successful • How the Gallery will be promoted if the event is held at a different venue • Better utilizing the courtyard if the event is held at the Gallery • Obtaining higher end pieces for the art auction 	

Item	Discussion	Action Item
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether an art catalogue is required for the art auction and if yes, who will produce it and will it be the same format as in previous years Holding the event no earlier than September 2017 <p>The Board discussed the process for issuing tax receipts for art auction purchases, as the current process is taking too long. Terrence Pochmurski, Stephen Chait and the Director of the Gallery will look into this matter and report back at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Look into how improvements can be made to the process for issuing tax receipts – Stephen Chait and Niamh O’Laoghaire</p>
<p>g. Sub-Committee Reports</p>	<p>A) Art Auction Committee No report was provided.</p> <p>B) Acquisitions Committee No report was provided.</p> <p>C) Development Committee No report was provided.</p> <p>D) Volunteer Committee No report was provided.</p>	
<p>h. Financial Report</p>	<p>None.</p>	
<p>i. New Business</p>	<p>Terrence Pochmurski advised that the Board is in the process of recruiting new Board of Directors. Two prospective new Directors were at the meeting today.</p>	
<p>a. Next Meeting Date</p>	<p>The next meeting of the Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham will be held on Monday, February 8th 2016, at 5:00 p.m. at the Gallery.</p>	
<p>b. Adjournment</p>	<p>On a motion from the Board the meeting of The Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham adjourned at 6:59 p.m.</p>	

Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham

September 12, 2016

Page 7 of 8

Varley-McKay Art Foundation of Markham - Action Item Tracking

No.	Action Item	Meeting Date	Responsibility of Staff/Board Member	Meeting Date to be Completed By	Status
1.	Meet to establish criteria for recognizing past Board of Directors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create picture of what the founder wall may look like and decide who should be on it 	September 8, 2014	Edie Yeomans, and Ernestine Tahedl	ongoing	See Item 5. September 14 th Meeting Notes
2.	Present a work plan with specific objectives.	March 9, 2015	Development Committee	TBD	Discussion suspended pending direction from the City
3.	Look into how improvements can be made to the process for issuing tax receipts at the art auction.	September 12, 2016	Terrence Pochmurski, Stephen Chait and Niamh O'Laoghaire	October 17, 2016	